THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT

Newsletter of the Maryland Ornithological Society

VOL. 19, NO. 4 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1999

DNR Reports . . .
by Glenn Therres

Around the 4th of July, the news media reported that the Bald Eagle was taken off the Federal Endangered and Threatened Species list. Wrong! The Federal government proposed to remove the Bald Eagle from the list, but has not done so yet. On July 3, at a ceremony on the south lawn of the White House, President Clinton announced the Federal government was initiating steps to remove the Bald Eagle from the threatened species list. On July 6, a proposed rule was published in the Federal Register formally proposing to remove the Bald Eagle in the lower 48 states from the list of endangered and threatened species.

It is still listed as a threatened species by the U.S. government and as an endangered species by the State of Maryland. However, it is under serious review for delisting and its population recovery warrants such consideration.

A partial survey conducted by the National Audubon Society in 1963 reported only 417 active Bald Eagle nests in the lower 48 states. Surveys conducted by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in 1974 resulted in a population estimate of 791 nesting pairs in the lower 48 states. The 1998 estimate exceeded 5,748 nesting pairs, representing a significant population increase and, thus, the reason for the proposed delisting. This is truly a success story.

In Maryland, the Bald Eagle's population trends have been similar to the national trends. In 1977, the first year DNR conducted a comprehensive nesting survey, only 41 pairs of nesting Bald Eagles were found. In 1998, there were 232 pairs nesting in Maryland and 538 pairs in the Chesapeake Recovery Region, of which Maryland is a part. This past nesting season, we documented 260 nesting pairs, which produced at least 370 young eagles. That represents a six-fold increase in the Bald Eagle population here in slightly over 20 years.

Several factors contributed to the eagle's recovery. One of the most important was the ban on the use of DDT by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1972. Habitat and nest site protection was afforded by the Federal and State endangered species acts and other environmental laws. In Maryland, the efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay have also contributed.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has proposed to remove the Bald Eagle from the list of endangered and threatened wildlife for the following reasons: (1) a widespread reduction in use of persistent pesticides and their

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A Report on the 1999 Solomons Island Annual Conference
by Lou DeMouy

The 54th annual conference of the Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS) was held in Calvert County at the Holiday Inn Select Solomons on Solomons Island during the weekend of May 14-16, 1999. The 244 registered attendees enjoyed the program and spotted 162 species of birds on field trips. Friday evening's speaker was Mr. Greg Miller of Baltimore County (formerly of Calvert County). The title of his talk was "My Dream Year" — a recounting of Greg's adventures in identifying 715 bird species in North America during 1998. MOS President Norm Saunders presided over the annual business meeting on Saturday evening, May 15. Norm Saunders (President), Karen Morley (Vice President), Kathy Neugebauer (Secretary), and Jeff Metter (Treasurer) were re-elected for another year in those offices at the meeting.

The local planning team for the conference included representatives from Calvert County, the Southern Maryland Audubon Society (SMAS), the Jug Bay Chapter, and the Anne Arundel Chapter of MOS. The lead local planners were Dale Johnson, Gary Flenner, and Ernest Willoughby (representing SMAS). Other key planning committee members were Mike Callahan, Anne Courtemanche, Bob Courtemanche, Sue Hamilton, Peter Hanan, Al Haury, Carol Jelich, and Dotty Mumford.

Peter Hanan planned and directed an extensive field trip program, with over 50 leaders and trips heading out in all directions around the three-county area of St. Mary's, Charles, and Calvert Counties. Dale Johnson and Gary Flenner organized an art exhibit displaying the work of 13 local artists while Sybil Williams coordinated the raffle and silent auction, which together netted $1,868. The total proceeds were donated in the name of MOS to help a joint project of SMAS, the Calvert County Parks and Recreation Department, and the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary to support the Shrub Habitat Enhancement Project for Neotropical migratory birds on the shoreline of the Patuxent river. Thanks go out to the two Dolesh boys who did their usual

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Chapter Chatter
by Martha Waugh

Harford Chapter Honors Member with Donation to the Sanctuary Fund — Col. Leland Devore, Jr. of Cecil County passed away on June 28, 1999, in Charlotte Hall from complications after a fall. Leland, 84, had been a member of the Harford County Bird Club since 1970. His wife Helen died in 1991. He is survived by his daughter, Cynthia Devore Rossetti of Port Deposit. Col. Devore, a career Army officer, retired as the director of instruction at the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School at Aberdeen in 1965. After his retirement, he taught mathematics for a year at West Nottingham Academy, helped found the Army Ordnance Museum at Aberdeen Proving Ground, and embarked on a career as a birder and nature correspondent. His weekly "Outdoor Journal" appeared in The Record from 1973 until 1988. Col. Devore wrote two books and nearly 1,000 articles in 26 different magazines and 16 newspapers, including The Cecil Whig, The Aegis, Upper Shoreman

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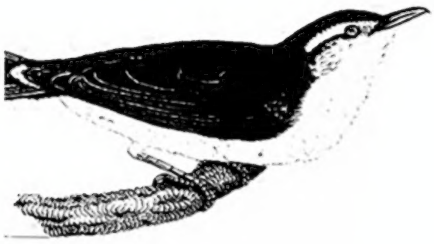

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jlfry@netfox.net

For information on advertising rates and deadlines, contact the editor.

Copy deadlines for the November/December 1999 issue are:
November-January Calendar Activities:
September 25, 1999

All Other Submissions:
October 1, 1999

Research Grant Deadline Approaching Fast

by Dave Brinker

The Maryland Ornithological Society announces the availability of research grants for ornithological research to be conducted in the State of Maryland. Grants are generally limited to amounts less than $2,000. If the research is to be done at or near one of the MOS sanctuaries, the society may be able to provide accommodations at a nominal cost. Proposals are reviewed twice annually with deadlines of **1 December** and **1 June** with award notification in approximately eight weeks. For application guidelines and further information write:

David F. Brinker
MOS Research Committee
1200 Frederick Road
Catonsville, MD 21228

MOS 1999 Conference

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great job of selling raffle tickets. Dave Brinker arranged presentations of research papers on Saturday afternoon. John Malcolm organized competition for the conference pin. This year's pin design winner was Don Culbertson of the Baltimore chapter. The winning design was a wood duck — a bird seen by many while at the conference.

Norm Saunders presented "Birder Assistant of the Year" awards to John Quade and Bobbie Ray Dean, owner and general manager respectively, of the Sea Breeze Restaurant in St. Mary's County. Also receiving the Birder Assistant award were the husband and wife team of Jane Kostenko and Tyler Bell (St. Mary's County). The awards were for valuable assistance to birders from far and wide who came to see the kelp gull in the months preceding the conference. Valued Service awards went to Lou DeMouy (Conference), LeAnne Pemburn (May Count), and Isa Sieracki (Scholarship). Finally, Norm presented the Distinguished Career Service Award to John Malcolm for his many contributions to MOS over more than a quarter of a century.

MOS/2000, the Society's first conference of the new century, will be held on the weekend of May 19-21, 2000, in Washington County. The conference site will be the Ramada Inn in Hagerstown. Conference Committee leadership will be provided over the coming year by Mike Callahan of the Jug Bay Chapter.

MD/DC Records Committee Outreach Program

by Paul O'Brien

The MD/DC Records Committee, a standing committee of the Maryland Ornithological Society, has developed a program designed to inform the members of MOS of the goals and purposes of the Records Committee as well as to provide assistance in the documentation of rarities and encouragement in reporting such observations to the MD/DCRC. A one hour presentation has been prepared for inclusion in the programs of each MOS chapter. Two Committee members will be available whenever the chapter would like to schedule their appearance.

The interactive program will consist of a discussion of the Committee's function and procedures and a slide show of some of the more spectacular rarities found in Maryland for which photographic documentation was submitted. In addition, the basic guidelines for written descriptions will be reviewed and illustrated with several examples, using slides to discuss what one should attempt to observe and record in order to provide convincing documentation. In the real world, one does not always get a protracted look at a bird and consequently cannot be certain of seeing all the crucial features. Some examples will be reviewed of documentation that simply did not have enough information to rule out all similar species, with discussion of the requisite additional details.

The goal of this presentation will be to encourage MOS members to submit their observations to the MD/DCRC so that we can more thoroughly provide permanent documentation of the occurrence of unusual birds in the state. One does not have to be a professional photographer to submit documentation that is convincing. What is needed is attention to critical details and careful note taking. This presentation is designed to help birders hone those skills while also showing outstanding slides of remarkable birds.

For further information, and to schedule a presentation in your chapter, contact: Paul O'Brien, 12 Duke St. South, Rockville, MD 20850-1014, (301) 424-6491, pobrien776@aol.com

DNR Reports . . .

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adverse effects is evident; (2) other threats are not currently of sufficient magnitude to place the species at risk of extinction; (3) sufficient knowledge has been gained through the recovery process to properly manage the Bald Eagle in the future; and (4) widespread trends in the population indicate that the Bald Eagle has recovered and is no longer in danger of extinction nor is it likely to become in danger of extinction in the foreseeable future.

DNR will support the delisting of the Bald Eagle. We will be reclassifying it to a threatened species under the State's endangered species act sometime this fall or winter. We cannot remove the species completely from the State list until it has been removed from the Federal list.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is soliciting public comments until October 5, 1999. Comments should be directed to Jody Gustitus Millar, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 4469-48th Avenue Court, Rock Island, IL 61201 or through their web page at

www.fws.gov/r3pao/eagle

All comments and new information received by the federal government will evaluated and a final decision made. I suspect the decision will be to remove the Bald Eagle from the list and I anticipate that to officially occur around the 4th of July, 2000. What a way to celebrate the new millennium!

Chapter Chatter

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magazine, Delaware Conservationist, Colorado Outdoors, Maryland Conservationist, Wonderful West Virginia, Army magazine, and Mother Earth News. His writings were filled with keen observations about nature and a touch of subtle wit. He and his wife attended the Chapter dinner meetings regularly, and he often led field trips. The club has given a donation in his memory to the MOS Sanctuary Fund.

Howard Chapter Loses Member — Paul S. Newman died of a heart attack at the age of 75 on May 30, 1999 while playing tennis. Paul and his wife, Carol, have been active members of MOS. Paul was featured in the Washington Post of July 15, 1999 as "A Comic Genius." He is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's most prolific comic writer. According to the Post, "His trademark 'meanwhile' and abundant use of exclamation marks are now American pop culture fixtures." Paul wrote Lone Ranger, Mighty Mouse, Turoc, Son of Stone, and Superman comics and comic versions of shows such as Bonanza, I Spy, Hogan's Heroes, Star Trek, and Fat Albert. In all, he wrote 4,121 issues for 360 different titles. A lifelong lover of birds, he also wrote a humorous work about birdwatching called "The Sapsucker."

Ruff-ing It in Talbot County — A late summer birding highlight descended upon the Talbot County Chapter with the arrival of a Ruff on or about July 17th at the Easton Wastewater Treatment Facility (EWTF). The bird was in fairly late stage of molt, but retained large dark feather patches on both sides of the belly, beneath the wings and also on the back. Some of the back feathers were staying up in rather unruly fashion, but the mating season feathering around the head and neck was gone. The bird's head color was a light tan. The Ruff stayed until the night of July 25th. The EWTF staff (Mollie Faulkner, George Roth and Pete Welty) went out of their way to help visitors find the bird and during the weekend kept the normally-closed gates open for long hours to accommodate birders. The Talbot County Chapter has consistently encouraged maintenance of good relations with EWTF staff and this consideration was certainly appreciated. Birders are welcome during regular business hours (8AM-4PM weekdays); just stop by the office off North Dover Rd. or call Mollie at (410) 822-5725.

Bird Watcher's Guide to Delmarva Is Published — Sam Dyke, president of the Tri-County Chapter, announces that a *Bird Watcher's Guide to Delmarva* has been published and will be available in September at the Ward Museum in Salisbury (410-742-4988 ext. 120) and at book stores and shops in Delmarva. Sam reports that the Guide contains maps, color photos, and information about when and where to spot birds in that area. He believes it will be a real help to new and journeyman birders and visitors, but may not be advanced enough for experienced birders. Sam Dyke, a Director of the Ward Museum, and Jim Rapp, MOS member and a Director of the Salisbury Zoo, were the main writers and Curtis J. Badger was the overall editor.

Washington Chapter News — Washington Chapter members were saddened to learn that Scott Mitchell, husband of long-time member Ann Mitchell, passed away in July.

Parade Magazine Encourages Building Bluebird Trails — The May 2, 1999 issue of Parade Magazine featured an article entitled, "Help Build the Bluebird Trail." According to the writer, a Parade article in 1979 on Bluebirds "generated more than 80,000 responses to the North American Bluebird Society which had been established only the year before. The impact has been dramatic...the population of Eastern Bluebirds increased 103% from 1966 to 1996 and the Mountain Bluebird population grew 98%." The Bluebird Society now wants to build a Transcontinental Bluebird Trail. The final paragraph of the article belongs to Joanne Solem, former editor of the Bluebird Society magazine, and Howard MOS member: "The idea is to assist birds before they're endangered like the Whooping Crane and California Condor. We need to help these species when their numbers are dropping, not when a population has been reduced to a critical few. At that point, rescue may not be possible."

Cecil Bird Club Installing an Interpretive Sign — The Cecil Club is installing the Turkey Point Hawk Watch interpretive sign, built by member Ron Kelczewski. Thanks to the drought, the ground was concrete-like, a challenge to strong-men Ron and Harry Fisher, ably supervised by Leslie Fisher. The local paper, the Cecil Whig, is covering the dedication ceremony, to be attended by the Mayor of North East and County Commissioners.

Birding for Kids in Talbot County — The Education Committee of the Talbot County Chapter, under the leadership of Liz Lawlor, sponsored and led spring semester outings to Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge for both of the fourth grade classes of St. Michaels Elementary School. Long-time Chapter member Dick Kleen provided a period of discussion and introduction to birding for each class prior to leading the field trips. Dick, a very accomplished birder and leader, is a retired teacher, having taught in the St. Michaels system for more years than he will admit. The birding visit attained instant rapport with all participants, partly aided by the fact that one of his former students was teaching one of the classes, and he had also taught parents of many of the current fourth-graders in that school.

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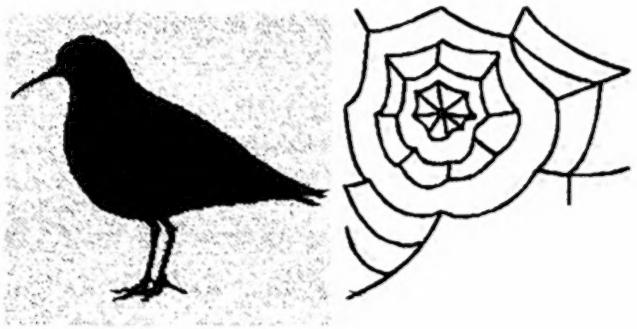
Birds on the Web



State Bird Records Committees

by Fran Saunders

Welcome back to another great season of birding on the web! Recently, I attempted to access a variety of state records committee pages and found that most of the established web lists were out-of-date. Attempting to update these for our own use, I found many valuable resources for state birding information. More and more state bird clubs and ornithological societies are providing records information on the WWW. Although some are one page treatments and are still emerging, other states have provided extensive information about their committees. On most pages you will find instructions on how to report records sightings, official state bird lists, lists of species under review, and a summary of the review process. You may also find annual reports of accepted new species, lists of members, and information about species currently under review. Photos of reviewed species are less common, but available on several sites.

As usual, to help you surf efficiently, the URLs listed here are available on the MOS State Web State and can be reached via our own MD/DC Records Committee Home Page. These are all dedicated records committee pages or sections. New additions will be added to the web page. Let us know if you find any others. Have fun!

Alabama — http://www.bham.net/aos/abrc.htm
Arizona — http://www.rtd.com/~garyhr/GaryRosenbergHomePage.html#anchor3200753
California — http://www.wfo-cbrc.org/cbrc/
Carolinas (N & S) — http://members.aol.com/cbirdclub/CBCRCRDS.html
Colorado — http://www.frii.com/~hopko/cbrchome.html
Georgia — http://www.gos.org/brc.html
Kansas — http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~drintoul/kos/kos_kbrc.htm
Louisiana — http://www4.link.net.net/LOS/~lb/lbrc.htm
Maryland/District of Columbia — http://www.MDBirds.org/mddcrc/rcindex.html
Michigan Bird — http://www.umd.umich.edu/dept/rouge_river/MBRChome.html
Missouri — http://mobirds.mig.missouri.edu/
New Jersey — http://www.princeton.edu/~llarson/njrc.html
Ohio — http://aves.net/rarities/
Oregon — http://www.cyber-dyne.com/~lb/obrc.htm
Tennessee — http://www.utm.edu/departments/artsci/biology/tbrc/tbrc.htm
Texas — http://members.tripod.com/~tbrc/index.html

Wanted for the Website

Are you a member of the Maryland Ornithological Society who makes presentations to the Chapters or to other natural history groups? Do you have some birding or bird ID courses in your repertoire that you would like to share with the MOS Chapters? Have you been wondering what ever happened to the MOS Speakers List? Have you heard a particularly uplifiting talk over the past few years and want to share the topic and speaker's name with others? Well here, at last, is your chance!

Send any and all information you have on the speaker, the title or titles in the speaker's bag of presentations, and the method of getting in touch with the speaker, including mailing address, telephone/fax numbers, and e-mail address and send it along to Fran Saunders, MOS Website Coordinator. You can get it to Fran by regular old U.S. mail at 1261 Cavendish Drive, Colesville, MD 20905. The best way, though, is to send it by e-mail to her at: saunderf@ari.net

All the materials received will be organized and posted as soon as possible in the members' section of the MOS web site. Let us hear from you so we can share this vital information with all the Chapters and members of MOS.

<u>Baby Bird Portraits</u> by George Miksch Sutton: Watercolors in the Field Museum, by Paul A. Johnsgard with a Foreward by Benjamin W. Williams & William R. Johnson. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman 19998, 81 pps., $15.95.

reviewed by Joy Wheeler

Is it becasue I am female that I find pictures of babies, even baby birds, so engaging? This small volume of only 80 pages including preface, Foreward, and appendix, has drawn my attention over and over again as I study each of Sutton's portraits of young birds. There are thirty-two bird portraits in all, a number of the birds with more than one view, sparrows dominating. Many contain the artist's notes directly on the picture about where and when he painted the original. Paul Johnsgard, noted writer on ornithology, has added his own observations about each bird, including more details by Sutton while the work was in progress. Some pictures are reproduced two times the original size, some just a little over the original.

Almost as engaging as the portraits with their accompanying interpretation by Johnsgard are the Foreward and preface explaining how the book came to be published. Then you may want to read another book that reveals how Sutton's passion for birds and the painting of birds, even as a young student, grew with the nurturing of the older and more experienced Louis Fuertes in his **Letters to a Young Bird Artist**, reviewed here several years ago by Hal Weiss of the Baltimore Bird Club.

Though slim in girth, **Baby Bird Portraits** is not a lightweight book It shows the dedication and detail by a superb artist portraying some of our favorite subjects. It shows also the dedication to art preervation by those to whom Sutton's work was entrusted. All right, I agree that the best way to see these water colors is to go to Chicago's Field Museum where they have been on display. The book is second best only to that.

<u>Mind of the Raven: Investigations and Adventures with Wolf-Birds</u>, by Bernd Heinrich. Harper Collins Publishers, NY, 1999, 350 pps., $25.

reviewed by Joy Wheeler

Though I personally have not seen a Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) lately, the bird seems to be often in my thoughts, what with serving on the jury determining the authenticity of the origin of the local football team's logo, and now reading a new book by Bernd Heinrich, noted author of many other books and articles on ravens.

Alexander Skutch's recent (1996) book, **The Mind of Birds,** had made clear to me the possibilities of complex thinking abilities of birds. "Birds' mental capacities have been grossly underestimated," he says in summary. His accounts include activities of many birds that prove his point, reported by observers world wide. The raven barely stands out from the rest of Skutch's reporting. He does acknowledge that ravens play, count, and use tools. (Skutch does not use Heinrich as a resource, however.) In **The Mind of the Raven** Heinrich has found much more.

As an experienced experimental biologist with a focus on ravens, Bernd Heinrich of the University of Vermont has been conducting exhaustive studies on ravens in North America and Northern Europe. He begins his book by describing what it involved to become a surrogate father to four raven nestlings. His regard for young ravens may be reflected in one of the first photographs in the book, a picture of five raven youngsters cuddling cozily around one sleeping human baby, Elliot Heinrich, all in what looks like a washtub. As a matter of fact, the book is graced throughout with many clean black and white photographs at the head of each chapter. An eight-page photography section brings to life the named ravens in Heinrich's study as well as their aviaries and territories.

Our attention was drawn to Heinrich's latest book by a review in ***The Sunday Sun*** of May 23 by Michael Packenham, editor of the ***Sun's*** book pages. The word 'raven' is a natural drawing card for Baltimoreans and may be the reason for its ***Sun*** review. Anyone picking it up and reading it just because of the Baltimore connection will find much more than that. Heinrich has had some engrossing interactions with ravens since he began his studies in 1984. His writing style provides descriptions that make his experiences very real. The reader who truly enjoys outdoors will marvel at the closeness with which Heinrich observes his birds in all weather. He is careful to provide constantly adequate food, enough to attract them to his known locations. While Heinrich describes basic and straightforward raven behavior and raven behavior with much more complexity he does not attempt to interpret their feelings. "We do not know what they feel. We do know what they do," he asserts. What ravens do makes good reading for birdwatchers. It may even convert Ravens-watchers to add to their list of two: 1. Baltimore Raven and 2. Baltimore Oriole.

The MOS Dateline

September 1999 through August 2000

September

1	Membership year commences—renew now!
25	Deadline for Nov/Dec/Jan Meeting/Field Trip Schedule Submission to Les Eastman

October

1	Deadline for Nov/Dec *Yellowthroat* Submissions to Norm Saunders
30-31	Irish Grove Fall Work Weekend

November

15	Board Meeting Agenda Items Due To Norm Saunders
25	Deadline for Jan/Feb/Mar Meeting/Field Trip Schedule Submission to Les Eastman

December

1	Deadline for Jan/Feb *Yellowthroat* Submissions to Norm Saunders
1	MOS Grant Applications Due to David Brinker
11	State Board Meeting, Frederick
15	Deadline to submit Fall (August to November) bird sightings to Dan Southworth and to Jim Stasz
18	Christmas Count Season Begins
31	Conference Pin Contest Entries Due to John Malcolm

January

1	Christmas Count Season Ends
15	Mid-Winter Count Season Begins
25	Deadline for Mar/Apr/May Meeting/Field Trip Schedule Submission to Les Eastman
31	Scholarship Applications Due to Jean Fry

February

1	Deadline for Mar/Apr *Yellowthroat* Submissions to Norm Saunders
1	State MOS Budget Submissions Due to Paul Zucker
15	Board Meeting Agenda Items Due To Norm Saunders
15	Mid-Winter Count Season Ends
26	MD/DC Records Committee Annual Meeting

March

11	State Board Meeting, Location TBA
15	Deadline to submit Winter (December to February) bird sightings to Dan Southworth and to Jim Stasz
25	Deadline for May/Jun/Jul/Aug Meeting/Field Trip Schedule Submission to Les Eastman
TBA	Irish Grove Spring Work Weekend

April

1	Deadline for May/Jun *Yellowthroat* Submissions to Norm Saunders
TBA	Carey Run Spring Work Weekend

May

13	May Count
13	1999 World Series of Birding (Support your Yellowthroats!)
15	Board Meeting Agenda Items Due To Norm Saunders
19-21	Annual MOS Conference, Hagerstown
20	Chapter & Committee Annual Reports due to MOS President

June

1	MOS Grant Applications Due to David Brinker
10	State Board Meeting, Location TBA
15	Deadline to submit Spring (March to May) bird sightings to Dan Southworth and to Jim Stasz

July

25	Deadline for Sept/Oct/Nov Meeting/Field Trip Schedule Submission to Les Eastman

August

1	Deadline for Sept/Oct *Yellowthroat* Submissions to Norm Saunders
15	Board Meeting Agenda Items Due To Karen Morley
15	Deadline to submit Summer (June & July) bird sightings to Dan Southworth and to Jim Stasz

1999-2000 Officers of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

(800) 823-0050 - voicemail

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Conference coordinator:	VACANT		
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Education:	Maud Banks	6666 Downdale Pl., Columbia, MD 21045	(410) 381-3240
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Investments:	VACANT		
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Long-range planning:	VACANT		
MD/DC Records:	Phil Davis	2549 Vale Ct., Davidsonville, MD 21035	(301) 261-0184
Publications:			
MD Birdlife	Chandler S. Robbins	Migratory Bird Research, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD 20811	(301) 498-0281
Season Reports:	Dan & Linda Southworth	9763 Early Spring Way, Columbia, MD 21046	(301) 490-5648
MD Yellowthroat:	Norm Saunders	1261 Cavendish Dr., Colesville, MD 20905	(202) 606-5701 -day (301) 989-9035 -eve
Calendar:	Les Eastman	4034 Wilkinson Rd., Havre de Grace, MD 21078	(410) 671-3490 -day (410) 734-6969 -eve
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Research:	David F. Brinker	1200 Frederick Rd., Catonsville, MD 21228	(410) 744-3246 -eve
Sanctuary:	Dorothy Mumford	1900 Generals Hwy, Annapolis, MD 21401	(410) 849-8336
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Seasonal Counts	VACANT		
May Count Subcomm.:	Wanda Cole	29731 Apple Drive, Cordova, MD 21625	(410) 822-8311
Mid-Winter Subcomm.:	VACANT		
Fall Subcommittee:	VACANT		
		Other Committees and Projects	
Atlas:	Jane Farrell Coskren	6324 Sandchain Rd., Columbia, MD 21045	(410) 381-7344
Cavity-nesting:	Mark Johnson	3204 Bryson Ct., Baldwin, MD 21013	(410) 692-5978
County Lists:	Phil Davis	2549 Vale Ct., Davidsonville, MD 21035	(301) 261-0184
Mailing list:	William Guion	8007 Martown Rd., Laurel, MD 20723	(301) 490-0444
Nominations:	David Harvey	302 Chelsea Ct., Sykesville, MD 21784	(410) 795-3117
Env. Fund Liaison:	Carol Jelich	682 Black Forest Rd., Annapolis, MD 21401	(410) 757-8158
		Chapter Presidents	
Allegany:	Charles Hager	124 Pine Street, Frostburg, MD 21532	(301) 689-5344
Anne Arundel:	Larry Zoller	278 Laguna Circle, Serverna Park, MD 21146	(410) 647-9354
Baltimore:	Terrence Ross	4128 Roland Ave., Baltimore, MD 21211	(410) 467-8137
Caroline:	Danny Poet	P.O. Box 223, Queenstown, MD 21658	(410) 827-8651
Carroll:	Amy Hoffman	7263 Norris Ave., Sykesville, MD 21784	(410) 549-3598
Cecil:	Marcia Watson-Whitmyre	24 Lochcarron Rd., Elkton, MD 21921	(410) 398-0125
Frederick:	Wilbur Hershberger	9093 Fox Ridge Dr., Union Bridge, MD 21791	(301) 898-9088
Harford:	Debbie Deleven	3504 Advocate Hill Drive, Jarettsville, MD 21084	(410) 692-9305
Howard:	Mike Kerwin	10257 Bristol Channel, Ellicott City, MD 21042	(410) 461-2408
Jug Bay:	Dale Johnson	4932 Chestnut St., Shadyside, MD 20772	(410) 867-7743
Kent:	Gail Regester	103 Cannon St., Chestertown, MD 21620	(410) 778-9367
Montgomery:	Linda Friedland	8611 Victory Lane, Potomac, MD 20854	(301) 530-2136
Patuxent:	Tom Loomis	11502 Allview Drive, Beltsville, MD 20705	(301) 937-2257
Talbot:	Wayne Bell	29590 Schwaninger Road, Easton, MD 21601	(410) 820-6002
Tri-County:	Sam Dyke	P.O. Box 1212, Salisbury, MD 21802	(410) 742-5497
Washington:	Gay Gilbert	19613 Foxcroft Circle, Hagerstown, MD 21756	(301) 791-5561

MOS Came (to Cape May) . . .
MOS Saw (178 species) . . .
MOS Conquered ! ! !

by Norm Saunders

In 1998 the Maryland Ornithological Society sent their first ever team to the World Series of Birding (WSB) in New Jersey. That team, made up of Hal Wierenga, Lynn Davidson, and Mark Garland, saw 153 species and placed third in the Limited Geographical Area (LGA) section of the World Series. They were defeated only by the formidable Canadian team and the team of local Cape May birders led by Maryland expatriate Michael O'Brien. That year we raised over $1,600 from pledges and donations in support of our team, the MD Yellowthroats, and were able to award an extra Audubon Workshop Scholarship in 1999 along with funding the new Mist Net Replacement Program to be administered by MOS's Research Committee.

We were all so thrilled with the results that the Board of Directors immediately approved sending our team back again in 1999. The team this year, still known as the MD Yellowthroats, was captained again by Hal Wierenga, a 10-year veteran of the World Series of Birding, noted Maryland birder, and leader of field trips of distinction all around the State and the USA. Joining Hal again this year was Lynn Davidson, employee of the MD Department of Natural Resources, experienced World Series Birder, and former holder of the Maryland Big-Day Record. Joining the team for the first time were two Maryland birders who probably need very little introduction. Mark Hoffman, also of the MD Department of Natural Resources, and probably better known as "Mr. Worcester County" was joined by the youngest member of the team, Marshall Iliff. This was Marshall's first attempt at the World Series of Birding but he joined the team straight from his second victorious year in a row at the week-long Texas Birding Classic.

OUR 1999 WSB TEAM: Mark Hoffman, Lynn Davidson, Hal Wierenga, and Marshall Iliff, with Pete Dunne of the NJ Audubon presenting the LGA Trophy

Our team didn't go to the World Series unprepared. As in 1998, they were all equipped with the custom-designed team hat. Additionally, though, special donations from Marty Chestem, Paula Ecker, and Fran Saunders allowed us to outfit our team with MOS/WSB windbreakers as well. The MD Yellowthroats competed again this year in the LGA segment of the competition in their bid to see more species of birds than any other team in Cape May County. The entire MOS team was in Cape May for the five days prior to the WSB, scouting to pin down as many hard-to-find species as possible before the big day arrived.

So how did the MOS MD Yellowthroats do? Well, my goodness, they won! The team tallied 178 species and handily carried off the LGA trophy, finishing 6 species ahead of the 2nd place Wildbird Magazine team. There were twenty-six teams competing this year in the LGA segment, so the competition was fierce, as always!

Here are some of Lynn's remembrances of the day itself, Saturday, May 15:

"Some of the highlights of our WSB sojourn included:

- the calm that settled in during the wee hours and lingered well into the morning for the first windless, good listening conditions in several days;

- the best bird on our list, the arctic tern that Marshall spotted, as well as several other nifty seabirds including roseate tern and sooty shearwater;

- the spectacle of Mark running across a field in hot pursuit of his map that had just blown out of the car (though Mark may not consider this one a highlight);

- and the thrill of discovering at the finish line that we had indeed polished off the competition."

"Fortunately lowlights were few:

- the several birds that were missed, including common nighthawk, cliff swallow, and sora, because they were located by only one observer instead of the new requisite of at least two team members;

- at least two birds that were missed at last light, including piping plover and blue-winged teal because three of the four team members couldn't pull themselves away from a late evening seawatch with enough light left (we probably should have listened to Mark more often)."

For those of you who may be new to MOS, here is some background: in the WSB, teams from around North America converge on the little town of Cape May, NJ, for one or more weeks of careful scouting and one exceedingly hectic 24-hour period for the competition itself. Teams can compete in the all-New Jersey category or, an increasingly popular alternative, in the limited geographical area competition, where the birding teams limit themselves to just one county, usually Cape May County, in New Jersey. The result is a gathering of some of the finest birders in North America, a time to remember the glories of past years, a time to dream of the victories of future years, and most of all, a time to strive to win THIS year. But the WSB is more, much more, than just a competition—it is a way for these teams, or for their sponsors, to raise significant amounts of money for conservation issues through donations and pledges made in support of the teams.

Financially the MD Yellowthroats did well, for the second year in a row. We collected $2,542.50 in pledges and $1,431 in donations and

(continued at top of next page)

team hat sales, for a total of $3,973.50 in gross revenues! Expenses were a bit higher this year due to the entire team scouting for the whole preceding week, coming in at $2,213, leaving the MOS with a net profit of $1,761, just about $100 more than we netted in 1998. The Board of Directors has already voted at the June 1999 Board Meeting to fund an additional Audubon Scholarship again in 2000 but unspent funds from 1998 combined with the balance of the funds from this year's team leave us with over $1,300 still to be put toward MOS's special outreach programs. If you have some ideas for how we can allocate these funds, let us know!

I want to thank the following organizations for their donations which formed the core of the MOS WSB fundraising efforts:

Anne Arundel Bird Club
Jug Bay Bird Club
Talbot Bird Club
The Backyard Naturalist, Olney

And I want to thank and acknowledge the following individuals whose pledges and donations carried us over the top!

THE LGA TROPHY ! ! !

Henry Armistead
Maud Banks
Paula Becker
Mary-Jo Betts
Amy Bishton
Mike & Joy Bowen
Michael Bowen
Anne Brooks
Donna Brown
Lori Byrne
Mary Jo Campbell
Martha Chestem
Serene Collmus
Dennis & Jane Coskren
Don Culbertson
John & Sue Davidson
Anneke Davis
Lou DeMouy
Barbara Dow
Ken Drier
Mark Eanes
Tad Eareckson
Dan Eberly
Paula & Darius Ecker
Gladys Faherty
Fed & Jane Fallon
Leslie Fisher
Gary Flenner
John & Helen Ford
Doug Forsell
Sam Freiberg
Larry & Jean Fry
Helen Gardel
Erma Gebb
Shirley Geddes
Phyllis & Mitchell Gerber
Ralph & Jane Geuder
Janet & Fred Godshall
Amy Gordon
Dot Gustafson
Peter Hanan
Tom Harten
Dave & Maureen Harvey
Al Haury
Wilbur Hershberger
Ann Hibben

Emmalyn Holdridge
Barbara Holloman
Kim Hudyma
Frank Hughes
Bob Jackson
George Jett
Dale Johnson
Roslyn Kaiser
Lynn Kenny
Ray Kiddy
Tim Larney
Bob & Terry Ledley
Peter Lev

Gisela Locherer
Ann Lucy
John & Joy Malcolm
Chris Manning
Jule McCartney
Jonathan McKnight
Jeff & Elayne Metter
Janet Millenson
Greg Miller
Karen Morley
David Mozurkewich
Harvey & Marion Mudd
Lou Nielsen

Jill Olson
Peter Osenton
Mary Paul
Ellen Paul
Linda Paye
Patsy Perlman
Paul Pisano
David Powell
Dillon Rankin
Bobbi Reichwein
Sue Ricciardi
Bob Rineer
Laurie Robertson
Barbara Ross
Terry & Roberta Ross
Sally Rowe
Billie Ruch
Bernice Sandler
Steve Sanford
Norm & Fran Saunders
Gene Scarpulla
Lydia Schindler
Doug Senn
Janet Shields
Mike Slattery
Esther Smith
Greg Smith
Jo & Bob Solem
Charles Stirrat
Gerald & Laura Tarbell
Debbie Terry
Glenn Therres
Mary & Bob Twigg
Norman & Mary Tyson
Peter Vankevitch
Ralph Wall
Helen Walsh
Marcia Watson-Whitmyre
Harold Wierenga, Sr.
Sybil Williams
George Wilmot
Pat Wilson
Marty Wright
Helen Zeichner
Paul Zucker

MOS Scholarship Program for 2000

by Jean Fry

The Maryland Ornithological Society is now accepting applications from Maryland teachers and youth leaders for ten scholarships to attend summer ornithology and ecology workshops which the National Audubon Society holds at its camps in Maine, Connecticut, and Wyoming. Each grant covers the cost of tuition, room, and board for an intensive six-day course of field study and instruction in ornithology, ecology, conservation, and natural history. The value of each scholarship is from $600 to $800.

MOS requires that its scholarship recipients work with young people. This includes teachers, camp counselors, park rangers, students, and others who intend to make nature education a part of their careers. Applicants need not be members of MOS, but they must be endorsed by a chapter or a member of MOS, and all must be eighteen or older.

Each candidate must submit the following:

1. A written statement in the form of a letter showing how the Audubon experience will be used to develop in young people an appreciation of our wild heritage and a sense of responsibility for the care and quality of our natural resources and environment.
2. Two letters of recommendation from individuals who know of the candidate's interest and activities. One must be from an MOS member or chapter. It is helpful if the letters cite specific programs or accomplishments of the candidate in addition to personal qualities.
3. A current resume.

The following persons are scholarship representatives in their respective chapters:

Alleghany—Dr. Gwenda Brewer
Baltimore—Phyllis Gerber
Howard—Eileen Clegg
Montgomery—Doris Brody
Talbot—Liz Lawlor
Tri-County—Patsy Decker.

The role of the scholarship representative is to recruit potential qualified candidates and to assist candidates in the application process. Chapters not listed here should appoint such a person and forward that person's name and address to Jean Fry.

Applications for the 2000 workshops are due by January 31, 2000 to Jean Fry, Chairperson of the MOS Scholarship Committee, 1202 Ridge Road, Pylesville, MD 21132. All MOS chapters are urged to see that this information is disseminated as widely as possible to all educators and youth leaders in their counties and to include it in their newsletters. A broad base of applicants is needed to ensure statewide participation and fairness in the selection process.

Volunteer Counters Needed for Cecil County Hawk Watch

by Leslie Fisher

The Cecil Bird Club is searching for hawk watchers to come out and share in the excitement of the 1999 Turkey Point Hawk Watch, which was established in 1994 by Cecil founding president Gary Griffith and veteran hawk watcher Charles Gant. In the past, hawk watchers have had breath taking looks of raptors in their often "naked eye" flight path across the point, while enjoying the beautiful scenery of the peninsula. Already I am thinking of gusty fall days, with one Red-tail after another soaring over the point, wings set against the buffeting wind. Who can forget the excitement when someone yells "PEREGRINE!!!", the sense of awe when the sky is filled with migrating raptors. If hawk watching is your game, you need to join us at Turkey Point this fall. The season will begin on Sept. 1st, through the 3rd week in November.

Our best season to date has been 5,000 raptors with much less than full-time coverage, and we suspect that being strategically located on a peninsula, the numbers could be much higher, perhaps even significant, with regular volunteer coverage. Therefore, we invite you to join us at the Turkey Point Hawk Watch..... on a regular basis, for a few hours, for a day, once a week, come as you can, whatever!! We look forward to seeing you. I encourage all who can commit to a specific date(s) to contact me, Leslie Fisher, as I will be co-ordinating volunteers. A regular core of counters would be wonderful. Call 410-658-2427 or e-mail gonbrdn@dol.net. It would be equally welcome for spur of the moment visitors to report data, should they find no counter present. Ron K., builder of the new sign will also be data compiler, and will submit to HMANA at the end of the season. Call Ron at 302-738-4345, or e-mail lrkmak@compuserv.com with your data.

Marcia Whitmyre has made my job easier for me by having written complete information on Turkey Point for our web site, WWW.UDEL.EDU/CECILBIRDS. I've taken license by using excerpts from the web page to give you some additional information. (Thanks Marcia, see ya at the Hawk Watch.)

Turkey Point is located in Cecil County, in the northeast corner of Maryland. The Point is a peninsula of land between the Elk and Northeast Rivers, at the head of the Chesapeake Bay. The peninsula is roughly triangular, with the point facing south, and this shape funnels and concentrates migrating birds, which are often reluctant to cross the water To reach Turkey Point, take I-95 or Route 40 into Cecil County. Exit at Rt. 272 south and enter the town of North East. Continue straight through town and remain on 272 south. Continue past the main part of Elk Neck State Park (camping area, day use areas and administrative offices) and past the community of Chesapeake Isle. Rt. 272 ends and the Turkey Point parking lot. Park here and follow the trail 0.9 miles to the second meadow.

Look for the sign and people staring into the sky!! We hope to see you during the 1999 Turkey Point hawk watching season.

A Report on the First C&O Canal Mid-Winter Bird Survey

by Peter Vankevich

The first C & O Canal National Historical Park Mid-Winter Bird Survey took place on January 24, 1999. Amazingly, 77 participants covered a little more than 137 miles of the 184.4 miles of the Canal. This is just about 75% of the entire Park. Although organizers were very pleased with the turnout of participants, they were not pleased with Mother Nature. Those down river faced heavy rain in the morning and upriver, ice and snow on the towpath. Nevertheless, only two parties were not able to participate and one was due to car trouble. The survey was organized in a similar fashion to a Christmas Bird Count where observers participated in a 24 hour survey and counted both species and individual numbers. Observers were to stay within the boundaries of the park and counted all birds observed, including birds on and over the Potomac River. This survey is also noteworthy because it provides an insight on winter birdlife along a major river.

A few noteworthy items about the survey: 89 species were identified with a total of 14,411 birds counted. The highest number by far for a species was 3,678 Canada Geese. There were high numbers on the Potomac of Canvasbacks, Red-Heads , Ring-necked Ducks and Lesser Scaup between Great Falls and Sycamore Landing, a well-described Osprey at around mile 66, 12 Bald Eagles, 136 Pileated Woodpeckers (my personal favorite as *The Bird for the Canal*), 17 Eastern Phoebes and a flock of 156 Rusty Blackbirds at mile 95.

Interestingly, not one Red-breasted Nuthatch was reported which supports the observation that these birds were not in the region this winter. The big mystery to me is that only one Common Grackle was reported. There was only one large gap in coverage which was from mile 115 to 136. Unfortunately, this is a significant area for identifying both Black-capped and Carolina Chickadees.

A special thanks to Bill Wendell, compiler of the Montgomery Midwinter Bird Survey whose graciously shared his participants for their survey on the same day. Also thanks to Norm Saunders, President of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Dianne Ingram of the National Park Service (and the coordinator of the C&O Canal Breeding Bird Survey), Ray Kiddy for getting all the great birders to cover Allegany County, and D.C. Audubon Society members Mike Milton and Cliff Nation for putting the data onto a readable spreadsheet.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of this survey, contact Peter Vankevich by email (pvank@cais.net or by mail at P.O. Box 15726 Washington, DC 20003.

Plans are being made to do the survey again, tentatively for January 23, 2000. Methodology and survey techniques will be reviewed and hopefully improved. A special need for chickadee aficionados to cover the area between miles 115 and 136 will be needed.

Fall Hawk Watching in Maryland

Washington Monument State Park: A regular but fairly informal watch atop the monument which straddles South Mountain in Boonesboro. One or more counters is present daily, at least through the morning hours; volunteers are most needed in the afternoons. Located off Alt. Route 40, near Boonsboro, MD. Take I-70 to Frederick and go West on Alt. 40 to Monument Road. Take Monument Road to the park entrance. Follow the right fork about 1/2 mile into the park to the Monument Trail. The hawkwatch is located at the top of the tower, about a 1/4 mile walk uphill. For further information about the hawkwatch call Lee Murray at 301-739-3463; to determine if the park is open, call park headquarters at 301-701-392-4491. The view from the stone tower is breathtaking. As its name implies, the tower is a monument to our first President. The view alone is worth the visit, but since the Cumberland Valley is a migatory bird flyway, the park offers excellent all around birdwatching opportunities. The Appalachian Trail winds through the park and passes the base of the monument.

Town Hill: This relatively new site, located in Allegany County, features a long, roofed shelter with a great view of the valley to the east. Take I-68 west through Hancock past Sidling Hill; three miles across the Washington-Allegany county line, take Scenic US 40 to the top of Town Hill. The Town Hill Inn will be on your right, the hawkwatch on your left.

Turkey Point: Another new hawkwatch, this one located in Cecil County, is near North East, MD, in the Elk Neck State Park. Take I-95 to Exit 100. Go South on Route 272 to the end of the road. Walk approximately 1 mile to the site. The hawkwatch will be in operation most days from September 1 through Thanksgiving and the counters welcome visitors. In fall 1996, over 5,000 raptors were counted. Call Leslie Fisher for additional information at 410-658-2427 or send her e-mail at gonbrdn@dol.net or see her article elsewhere in this issue.

Table Rock: This Garrett County site is located along Table Rock Road at the crest of Backbone Mountain and just off of US route 50 approximately two miles east of Red House Md. Red House is located at the intersection of US route 50 and route 219 app. 10 miles southwest of Oakland, Md. If you're coming from Red House and heading east on route 50, Table Rock road turns off to the right in a right-hand turn almost directly at the crest of the mountain. There is a small clearing on the right hand side of the road almost as soon as you turn onto Table Rock Road. With care you can pull your vehicle into the clearing. Or you can just park your car along the side of the road by the clearing. Claudia Wilds mentions this general area in her book, *Finding Birds in the National Capital Area* but may not have mentioned the hawkwatching aspect. She touts an area farther out Table Rock road as being good for Mourning Warblers and other species. Olin Pettingill also mentions this area in his older *Birding Finding East*. The site can be very productive. The drawbacks are no facilities and a lot of local traffic. There is a small restaurant along route 219 heading into Oakland that offers good home-cooked style food and restrooms. It's about a ten minute drive from Table Rock. The advantages are that you can drive right to the spot and actually hawkwatch from your car if you wish. In addition to hawkwatching, this part of Garrett County can also be very productive for songbirds, shorebirds and waterfowl. Any one wanting information on the site can phone Gary Felton at 304-454-9251.

Churchill On Your Own

by Tom Loomis

Churchill, located at the mouth of the Churchill River on the western shore of Hudson Bay, is routinely featured as a focal point for spring birding and ecology tours. Three distinct biomes: coastal, boreal forest, and arctic tundra are easily accessible in the vicinity of the town. The low vegetation, numerous small ponds, rivers and Hudson Bay provide abundant habitat to a wide variety of seasonal and resident birds.

The author and wife had long wished for a trip to this northern birding, wildflower, and polar bear Mecca but desired a slower pace and more day-to-day flexibility than provided by an organized tour. Ergo, we did some research and found that it very feasible to plan and schedule your own vacation trip to this area. Current site-specific travel and other general tourist information are readily available from Travel Manitoba (toll-free phone 1-800-665-0040). Also, there is an increasing abundance of up-to-date information regarding the area, attractions, and facilities on the Internet, readily accessible by searching on Churchill, MB. The following information, suggestions, and comments are based on both our 1985 and 1988 trips to this delightful naturalist's vacation spot and recent updates from the Internet.

Churchill is a small friendly town of about 1100 residents, with most of the facilities of a small U.S. town: stores, hotels, schools, library, hospital, churches, etc. It may be reached by train (VIA Rail Canada), air (a very long WW-II landing strip) and boat (harbor facilities for Canada's major grain port). There are several motels and restaurants. Local tour operators provide boat trips to see beluga whales at the mouth of the river and day trips for wildlife and flora viewing. Necessities, food, clothing and native craft souvenirs are readily available but selection is generally limited. Most places willingly accept US currency and major credit cards.

On both trips we drove to Winnipeg, Manitoba via the south end of the Great Lakes and then northwest through Wisconsin and Minnesota, birding at numerous spots long the way and at the Oak Hammock Wildlife area a few miles outside of Winnipeg. We left the car at the parking lot of a major hotel a few blocks from the train station and took the VIA train to Churchill. At Churchill we stayed in a motel and rented a well-used car for local transportation. Bikes are also available and may be feasible for those with muscular legs; most of the roads are gravel or packed earth. Also, a bike could be brought up on the VIA train. The chances of meeting up with an occasional wandering polar bear should be considered if using a bike.

It is not difficult to go up on your own but planning must be early; reservations for train, lodging and car must be made 3 or 4 months in advance. This is easily done by telephone. Note however that during the tourist season (June-November) **advance reservations for train, motel and car are a must!**

Both commercial and private flights go into Churchill and a few intrepid souls canoe from Flin Flon via the Churchill River. The latter is a major undertaking however. It is also possible to drive further north to Thompson and take the train from there.

Planning suggestions:

- Travel Manitoba - phone 800-665-0040 - Information, maps and brochures on Manitoba, Churchill and other points of interest
- VIA - phone 800-665-0200 - train schedules, prices and reservations
- **Birder's Guide to Churchill** - Bonnie Chartier and James Lane ABA, 1994 provides interesting information about the area and, more important, invaluable assistance on where to look for particular birds. It should be available from local bookstores and is a "must" if you are on your own!

The costs are reasonable, especially given the current rate of exchange for the Canadian dollar. Estimated costs in Canadian funds are train, round-trip, bedroom - $330/each; car parking in Winnipeg -$7/day; motel - $60-90/day; car rental - $60/day + $20-30/day for gas (gas is about $4/liter and the cars do not get good mileage!); meals - breakfast $4-6, lunch $8-12, supper $12-20. Foodstuffs can be bought in the two stores at prices varying from slightly above to double those in U.S.

This is an arctic area, with some tundra and ice remaining well into July, yet the afternoons warm up to shirtsleeve temperatures. Clothing selection requires careful planning. We had need of both thermal underwear and winter parkas. The wind off the ice can be downright cold in the morning especially near the coast. Layers of clothing work best as it usually warms up mid-day, away from the coast. Waterproof boots or hip waders are recommended if you plan to explore the fields; the tundra is wet. Don't forget to bring sunscreen, bug repellant, camera(s), film, tripod, binoculars, spotting scope, and more film. If you are interested in the vegetation, a hand-lens will be very useful for studying the belly flowers that bloom in profusion mid-June through July.

An Update on Hart-Miller Island, a Thank-you, and Some Acknowledgements

by Gene Scarpulla

At this year's MOS Conference in Solomons, I was unexpectedly awarded an MOS Certificate of Appreciation and named "Conservator of the Year" for my work monitoring Hart-Miller Island and representing the MOS on the Hart-Miller Island Study Team. The shock of hearing my name announced, as well as the walk to the podium, left my brain and mouth disconnected. After sitting down, I remembered all the things that I should have said and the people that I should have acknowledged.

First, I want to acknowledge Bob Ringler and Rick Blom. Although I have been involved with the Hart-Miller project for the last three years, Bob and Rick began the monitoring efforts on the island back in the 1970s. Actually, when they began the monitoring there were still two separate islands, Hart and Miller. They continued their efforts into the early 1990's.

Second, I want to acknowledge the Maryland Environmental Service, the Maryland Port Administration, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. It was their cooperation that has allowed the island monitoring to take place over the past twenty-two years.

Third, I want to acknowledge the Hart-Miller Island Study Team, which asked me to serve on their committee and to provide input for the South Cell environmental restoration project. Additionally, I want to acknowledge the MOS for allowing me to represent them on that Study Team.

I am honored to have been the recipient this award and thank the MOS and all its members.

I invite all MOS members to visit Hart-Miller Island when the South Cell restoration project has been completed.

During June, the North Atlantic Division of the United States Army Corps of Engineers was nearing completion of their review of the South Cell restoration project on Hart-Miller Island. After the review is finished, funding will be released for development of the Plans and Specifications for the project. The engineering firm of Michael Baker Jr., Inc. has been selected to develop the documents, which should take approximately six months. I will continue to represent the MOS for the development and review of the Plans and Specifications.

CHAPTER CHATTER

(continued from page 3, column 3)

Tri-County Chapter Gets Birds in the News — The Salisbury Daily Times has been featuring birds in their Friday "event" issue for the past month or so. Sam Dyke has been supplying information on a specific bird fairly common to the area along with a color photo, plus details about the Tri-County Chapter's activities. So far, Osprey, American Oystercatcher, Mute Swan, Brown Thrasher, and Chuck-will's-widow have been featured.

Montgomery Photographer Featured — "Wildlife Photographs by Luther Goldman—A Naturalist's Career through a Lens" was the featured show throughout the month of June at Harmony Hall Regional Center in Fort Washington, MD. Luther, an active Montgomery County Chapter member and indefatigable birder, has had an illustrious career. He was the founding manager of Laguna Atacosa and Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuges in Texas, and you will encounter him, as did R. T. Peterson, in "Wild America." His excellent photographs have been widely displayed.

Talbot County Chapter Sends Teacher to Audubon Camp — A 4th-grade teacher at the Chapel District School in Talbot County, Mr. Chris Sorrer, was awarded a full scholarship by the Talbot County Chapter to attend the Audubon Adventures for Teachers Workshop at the Audubon Center in Connecticut. Mr. Sorrer will attend the August 1-7, 1999 Workshop Session. Several Talbot County residents have attended the Audubon Camps in recent years, and all have responded favorably to the experience.

Caroline Chapter Members Suffer Tragedy—Wilbur Rittenhouse, an active Caroline Chapter member for many years who worked at the Adkins Arboretum, moved with his wife, Kay, to St. Louis, Missouri in 1996 to be with their only child, Teresa, who had some serious health problems. Teresa overcame those health problems only to be suddenly struck down with pancreatic cancer. She died at age 33 in St. Louis on July 13, 1999. Wilbur and Kay reside at 7105 Amhurst Street, St. Louis, MO 63130.

Tri-County Member Exhibits Art — The Ward Museum in Salisbury is showing a juried show, "Visions of the Eastern Shore" through September 19. Ellen Lawler, long-time member and past president of the Tri-County Chapter, has two water-colors there: one a Laughing Gull in winter plumage and one a White-throated Sparrow. Ellen teaches biology at Salisbury State and creates art in her spare time. The Wicomico Library exhibited 22 of her water colors and color pencil drawings through the month of July.

Baltimore Bird Club Member Designed 1999 Pin — This year's pin for participants in the MOS annual convention was designed by Donald Culbertson of the Baltimore Bird Club. The winning entry featured a Wood Duck. Don is a professional artist who spent many years in advertising and, after recovering from cardiac arrest last August, is now working from his home. After entering the annual contest six times, he was thrilled to be the winner this year. He also designed the oriole with the Maryland flag that was used at the MOS 50th anniversary celebration. The Baltimore Bird Club Oriole logo is also a design by Don. Don's wife Ruth studied ornithology in college and is a long time birder. They have been birding together for about eight years.

Howard Couple Find Not One But Two Record Dragonflies — Joanne and Bob Solem have begun an active interest in Odenata (dragon/damselflies). (Jo is the author of Birding Howard County, Maryland, the definitive guide to birding in that county.) On July 9, they captured a single mature male Hyacinth Glider Dragonfly at Lake Elkhorn in Columbia. The Hyacinth Glider is normally found only as far north as Georgia and Alabama (with one sighting in Virginia Beach, VA in 1990). They spotted it appropriately flying a repetitive pattern over a patch of water hyacinth. They verified their finding with Richard Orr, another Howard Club member, who is an expert in Odenata. Richard assured them they had the find of the decade. He could have hardly imagined that only one week later, on July 16, they would observe a dragonfly with a bubblegum-pink abdomen at Font Hill Wetlands Park. Richard identified it as a Roseate Skimmer, normally found only as far north as North Carolina. They called Dave Czaplak of the Montgomery MOS Chapter, another Odenata expert, about their finds and the next day Dave found another Roseate Skimmer at Lake Elkhorn.

Montgomery County Member Celebrates 50 Years of Birding — Paul O'Brien of the Montgomery Chapter celebrated his 50th anniversary in May 1999. He began birding in the field on May 6, 1949. He says he luckily ran into a fallout and managed to list 44 species. Paul says, "Everyone who knows me has heard me recount (yawn) how the identification of a Prairie Warbler using the 1947 edition of Peterson convinced me that this bird ID challenge could be met. That moment I was hooked. You should see the gorgeous rendition of a Prairie Warbler that Michael (his son) painted for me to mark the occasion. Life is good."

Carroll County Members Report a Busy Spring and Summer — Mark Hoffman, a member of the victorious Maryland Yellowthroats team, (winners of the 1999 World Series of Birding competition) now displays the trophy on his fireplace mantle. From all reports, it looks great. Mark was also featured on Channel 2, Sunday, April 11, during the "Rodricks for Breakfast" show. They highlighted a live segment on birding with Mark's contribution. Jerry and Laura Tarbell birded in Oregon and Washington, where it actually rained. Dave Harvey surprised his wife, Maureen, with a birthday party at the home of Mark and Amy Hoffman attended by Carroll County members and other friends of Maureen. Bob Ringler met former Carroll member Bill Hughey in England and they birded in England and Spain. Bob reports that there were good numbers of Chiffchaffs and Willow Warblers and that Wood Warblers, Redstarts, and Pied Flycatchers had arrived. His personal highlight was seeing Manx Shearwaters from land. In Spain Bob saw Melodious Warblers, Whitethroats, Slender-billed Gulls, Collared Pratincoles, Hoopoes, Little Bitterns, both Little and Great Bustards, Black-bellied and Pin-tailed Sandgrouse, Little Owl, Dotterels, Lammergeiers, Ortolans, and Black Woodpecker.

Birding at the Opera — On the last performance of the last opera of the season, "Andreas Chernier," on May 2, the Baltimore Opera General Director, Michael Harrison, came out on stage before the performance to report that there was "a bird in the auditorium. Please don't be frightened or alarmed. The Baltimore Opera will not pay medical expenses, but we will pay dry cleaning expenses." Despite constant coverage by many opera glasses, however, no bird appeared or joined in the singing.

Maryland Ornithological Society
Board of Directors Meeting

MEETING LOCATION: Cecil County Library, Elkton
MEETING DATE: March 13, 1999
MEETING START: 10:07am
MEETING ADJOURNED: 1:42 p.m.

In Attendance:

Officers & Committees:
Norm Saunders, President
Karen Morley, Vice-President
Kathy Neugebauer, Secretary
Jeff Metter, Treasurer
Larry Fry, Executive Secretary
Paul Zucker, Budget Committee Chair
Dale Johnson, Local Conference Coordinator
Maud Banks, Education Committee Chair
Fran Saunders, Long Range Planning Committee Chair
David Harvey, Nominations Committee Chair
Dotty Mumford, Sanctuary Committee Chair
Jean Fry, Scholarship Committee Chair
Carol Jelich, Environmental Fund Liaison
Phil Davis, Records Committee Chair, County Lists
Jerry Cotton, Audit Committee Chair
Mike Callahan, Publicity Committee Chair
Joy Wheeler, Library Committee Chair
Mark Johnson, Cavity Nesting Committee Chair

Chapters:
Allegany – no representatives
Anne Arundel – Allan Haury
Baltimore – Terry Ross, Gail Frantz, Peter Webb
Caroline – no representatives
Carroll – Maureen Harvey, David Harvey
Cecil – Leslie Fisher, Marcia Watson-Whitmyre
Frederick – Wilbur Hershberger
Harford – Tom Congersky, Larry Fry, Joe Vangrin
Howard – Mary-Jo Betts, Elayne Metter
Jug Bay – Dale Johnson, Mike Callahan
Kent – Patricia Wilson
Montgomery – Sam Freiberg, Linda Friedland, Janet Millenson, Lydia Schindler, Rick Sussman
Patuxent – David Mozurkewich
Talbot – Liz Lawlor, Frank Lawlor
Tri-County – no representatives
Washington – no representatives

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Norm Saunders, who thanked Cecil County for their hospitality. Norm began by announcing the final MOS team for the 1999 World Series of Birding: Hal Wierenga, Lynn Davidson, Marshal Iliff, and Mark Hoffman, an excellent team of birders and definite contenders for this year's Single County Championship. Norm noted that so far a net pledge of $1.85, and donations of $460 had been received. He will write to each Chapter challenging them to come up with $2 in pledges each and he urged all of the Chapters to help support this wonderful fund-raising effort for MOS programs.

December Board Meeting Minutes – The December minutes were reviewed. A misspelling was noted on page 2. The revised minutes were approved by the Board.

Audit Report – Jerry Cotton, in a written report to Norm Saunders, noted that the MOS is healthy financially and doing a good job accounting for spending activities. The Society's net worth is approximately $900,000, primarily from endowments and real estate. Liquid assets account for 75-80% of total net worth.

Fiscal Year 2000 Budget
Changes were made to the Budget Report to simplify the accounting and to include more informational notes for greater clarity. Paul Zucker reported at some length on these changes, as follows:

Operating funds changes – Transfers of funds from the Sanctuary Endowment to the Operating Fund to handle operating costs of life memberships were eliminated. From now on these costs will be borne entirely by the Operating Budget, eliminating a small and often confusing drainage from the Sanctuary Endowment.

Publications – some incidental publication costs and MOS website funding have been added to this category. Costs of mailing label printing have been removed from **MD Birdlife** and *MD Yellowthroat* and put under the Membership List Maintenance category.

President's Expenses – a one-time allocation of $500 for professional inspection of the buildings at our two primary sanctuaries, Carey Run & Irish Grove, was added this year in response to concerns expressed by the Board that we should know better how much money will need to be budgeted in the coming 10-15 years for maintenance of these buildings.

Liability Insurance – the large increase this year reflects the new Directors & Officers Liability Policy, as well as the decision to fund all of our general liability policy from current operating funds. In prior years some of this liability insurance funding was drawn from the Sanctuary Endowment, another often confusing drainage from that fund.

Promotional Items – An allocation of funds has been included for producing items for publicity and/or for sale to members.

Bulk Storage – The MOS is in need of a climate-controlled bulk storage facility for the materials of the Executive Secretary, the Atlas Committee, the MOS Library, and the MD/DC Records Committee. Such a facility is budgeted here for the first time.

Committee Expenses – Each of the MOS Committees has been allocated an operating expense budget. The Education Committee Expense Budget includes an additional $800 this year only, reflecting the income shortfall until income from the newly created Education Endowment becomes available in 2000.

Research Committee – Dave Brinker proposed the formation of a Mist Net Replacement Fund, to be administered by the Research Committee. The Executive Committee approved this request and made $500 available to fund the program from the profits of the 1998 World Series of Birding.

Scholarship Committee – The Executive Committee further approved the use of the remaining profits from the 1998 World Series of Birding to fund one additional scholarship in 1999.

MOS March 1999 Board Meeting Minutes

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In Summary – Projected Income is $28,000 while proposed operating expenses are $32,500. Actual spending levels have never in the past fully accounted for budgeted spending allowances so while the Budget Committee will continue to review carefully the budget situation throughout the year it is unlikely that a true deficit will materialize.

Atlas – The Budget will begin to more carefully monitor the Atlas fund in anticipation of a new Breeding Bird Atlas effort to take place sometime during the decade of the 2000's.

Conference Accounting – This has been a bit tricky to add, since conference expenses and income often extend over 2-3 fiscal years. For 1998, the totals reflect a few thousand dollars net profit. For 1999 – the total proposed budget listed is less than previous years since lodging is going to be paid for separately by the attendees.

Endowments – For the Endowment Funds (Education, Research, Sanctuary, and Scholarship), earnings from the current year determine what may be spent in the next year. Earnings for May 1998 through April 1999 determine the budget for the 1999-2000 fiscal year. Since our fiscal year doesn't end until April 30th, the included earnings figures are estimates only and will be replaced with the actual earnings as soon as we can determine what they are.

Sanctuary Fund – In the past we had two funds: 1) Sanctuary Endowment, and 2) Sanctuary Maintenance. The Budget Committee decided to roll the two funds together, eliminating a lot of confusion and paper fund transfers which had to occur each year under the old system. A special expense item has been included for Carey Run (a $1,000 one-time allocation for problems with erosion). In the past, maintenance expenditures have often exceeded the budget, leading to draw-downs in the Sanctuary Endowment principle. *The Budget Committee will watch these budget overruns for planning and evaluation purposes and will discuss these further with the Board at a later date.* The monies allocated in this budget reflect what has been budgeted in the past: $5,000 for Irish Grove and $1,500 for Carey Run (plus the additional $1,000 Carey Run allocation noted above). Projected expenses are higher than the $6,300 projected earnings in this budget by $1,200.

A Motion was made to accept the proposed budget as presented. This was SECONDED, and APPROVED by the Board.

FURTHER DISCUSSION ON BUDGET-RELATED ITEMS

Scholarship – Jean Fry requested that an additional $15,000 from previously unallocated bequest monies be made available to the Scholarship Endowment to fund an additional scholarship each year. The Gifts Committee agreed that this was a reasonable use of bequest funds. **A MOTION was made that this proposal be accepted. It was SECONDED and APPROVED by the Board.**

Sanctuary – Concern has been expressed about whether or not MOS is managing the sanctuaries in a manner compatible with our role as stewards of the land for wildlife. Norm told the Board that he had been approached by the MD Partners In Flight Habitat Management Committee with a proposal to carry out a more detailed evaluation of our sanctuaries. Costs (primarily transportation, housing, and incidental costs) are estimated to be $2,000. The Habitat Management Committee would prepare a notebook for each site, with GIS maps, evaluations, and recommendations for managing our sanctuaries.

Norm reminded the Board that MOS had already allocated $2,000 last year for the PIF Habitat Management Committee to print up their ground-breaking Habitat Management Guidelines. For various reasons this money was never spent and still was available and Norm noted that if the Board were to approve the MD PIF proposal, no additional budget allocation would be required. The proposed project would begin immediately, if approved, with work being carried out on our Western sanctuaries this spring and on the Eastern Shore sanctuaries in September of this year, with a final report forthcoming early in 2000. The work would cover our 5 largest sanctuaries.

The MOTION was made to approve the MD PIF evaluation of our Sanctuaries, SECONDED, and APPROVED by the Board.

Dottie Mumford noted that Mike Knott, a member of the Baltimore Chapter and a professional carpenter, has been helping with the regular maintenance of the sanctuary buildings at Carey Run and Irish Grove over the past several years. She felt it might be advantageous to use Mike's expertise in preparing the afore-mentioned inspection of the two sets of buildings. **It was MOVED, SECONDED, and APPROVED to let Mike Knott carry out these inspections.** *Norm will draw up a document outlining what the intent of the Board is in this regard prior to contacting Mr. Knott.*

Research & Scholarship – In talking to businesses and individuals this year while soliciting for World Series of Birding donations, Norm noted that he had been asked several times how the money from last year's WSB had been used by the MOS. To that end, Norm proposed to the Executive Committee that Dave Brinker's request for a Mist Net Replacement Fund and Jean Fry's request for an additional scholarship in 1999 be funded from the 1998 WSB profits. This request was approved unanimously by the Executive Committee.

Norm thanked Paul for all his hard work in reformulating the budget and carrying it through to approval.

Vacancy Report Norm asked each of the Chapters to look among their members for folks willing to help out with the task of running the organization. He then reported on the following vacancies:

Executive Secretary – position filled by Larry Fry.
Conference Committee – vacant after 1999 Annual Conference
Investment Committee – vacant now. Larry Fry felt that since he is now the Executive Secretary, a paid MOS position, that to continue in his role as Investments Committee Chair would constitute a conflict of interest. Larry will continue to provide investment recommendations in the interim until a replacement is found.
Recurring Counts Committee – vacant now (formerly May Count). May Count data shall be sent to Cylburn and will be held until a person to chair this committee steps forward. This is a tough job, involving running down and compiling reports from all the counties, in addition to preparing the formal presentation for MD Birdlife. Additionally, the incumbent will take on responsibility for additional seasonal counts (Winter, Fall Counts etc.) throughout the State.

Conference Reports

Proposed Use of Auction & Raffle Proceeds. Mike Callahan reported on a proposal from Southern MD Audubon Society (SMAS) regarding a Native Shrub Habitat Project for Neotropical Migratory

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Birds to be carried out along the Patuxent River Watershed in Southern Maryland. The project would involve the planting of native shrubs, then the management and monitoring of their use by migratory birds. The results will form guidelines for establishing such native shrub habitats throughout the State. The SMAS asked that the profits from the Silent Auction and Raffle at the 1999 Conference be used to fund this proposed study.

No other proposals were forthcoming so **the Board MOVED, SECONDED and APPROVED this proposal from SMAS.**

Status Report - Dale Johnson reported that planning is well underway, that 90 people have currently registered, and that field trips are shaping up under the coordination of Peter Hanan of the Anne Arundel Chapter. A field trip to Patuxent Naval Air Station is scheduled and there will be a lottery drawing for those interested in signing up for this high-demand trip.

2000 Conference request for Board approval and go-ahead--At the previous Board Meeting, approval was given to look into lodging in Easton at the Tidewater Inn for a Talbot County Conference in 2000. The Tidewater has now raised their prices three times ($300-320 for single room plus tax and food). Lou now recommends that we drop the Tidewater Inn. Unfortunately there are no other facilities in Talbot County large enough to host the MOS Conference. If we still want to hold the Conference on the Eastern Shore we will need to look again into Chestertown or possibly into Salisbury State University. We need to make a decision by the June Board Meeting since contracts need to be signed in June/July.

Options for meeting locations were discussed. The Board decided to keep the Conference on the Eastern Shore if possible. Lou DeMouy will explore Washington College and approach Talbot and Caroline Counties to arrange a joint planning committee with the Kent Chapter. If it is held at Washington College, the conference will have to be in June or later. *Lou will check availability.*

1998 Committee & Chapter Annual Reports due to the President-Annual Reports are due to the President from Committees and Local Chapters by the day of the Annual Meeting. Please get this information to Norm, with copies to Chan Robbins and Janet Millenson, for publication in **Maryland Birdlife**.

1999 Annual Meeting – a proposal for the format of the meeting
Norm will be giving a State of the Organization talk to explain what has been going on and where we are going in the next year. Those committee chairs who wish to make comments about their program at the Meeting will need to let Norm know so that they will be added to the Agenda.

Environmental Fund for Maryland–increasing demands on MOS-Carol Jelich reported that EFM is restructuring the fund within MD to ensure its inclusion with other state and national funds. This is still being reviewed, and it will be some months before all the related issues are resolved. It was noted that many state and county charity campaigns include charitable organizations for donations, such as the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Save our Streams, etc. MOS can be placed on this list as a charitable organization within the State, but a special application must be first submitted to EFM. *Carol Jelich will find out when this application is due for the Year 2000 so that we can be placed on the appropriate lists to increase our exposure in statewide charitable campaigns.*

Carol reports that there is some internal restructuring taking place at the Environmental Fund–EFM is training people to participate. Carol noted that 14% of the MOS budget is covered by funds from EFM and so our continued participation is very important. The EFM Coordinators have developed a Statement of Agreement and a Participation Agreement, both of which specify how we need to contribute to EFM to get more people to participate in charity campaigns at the workplace. For Board Members new to the idea of EFM, Carol noted that the organization is a coalition of twenty environmental organizations, including the MOS, and is listed under the United Way Foundation giver's list. Donations to EFM are allocated equally among the various organizations. Alternatively, donors can allocate their money directly to MOS or to any of the other 19 members, thanks to the MOS being included under the EFM umbrella. **MOS will get information out to members via the *MD Yellowthroat* and Chapter Presidents.**

Should MOS have a Code of Birding Ethics?--Al Haury asked if there was a Code of Birding Ethics for MOS to govern field trip leaders and participants at our Conferences. Norm noted that MOS does not have a set of ethics guidelines itself, insofar as he could determine. Al then asked that the Board adopt the guidelines set out by the ABA for birders nationwide. **A MOTION was made to ENDORSE the ABA Principles of Birding Ethics (current version only) and ENCOURAGE MOS members and field trip leaders to adhere to those Ethics Guidelines. The MOTION was SECONDED and APPROVED by the Board.**

MOS Authors List – Fran Saunders noted that the growing list of MOS authors and their publications currently on the MOS website was in need of updates. Board members were asked to submit additional authors, titles, or other publication information.

Long-Range Planning Committee Update--The final Mission Statement has been completed. If there are any other minor wording changes please let Fran Saunders know.

Other Old Business--Norm announced that Ed Unger recently passed away. For many years Ed was the chair of the Sanctuary Committee, and for six years he was President of MOS, all during the 1960's and early 1970's. He also encouraged the purchase of Irish Grove and other sanctuaries. A member of the Caroline Chapter, Ed was a moving force in the MOS organization of that time. A remembrance of him is being prepared by that chapter for publication in the ***MD Yellowthroat***. Norm has also asked the Caroline Chapter to set up an *ad hoc* committee to come up with an idea for a memorial, something we could place, perhaps, at Irish Grove.

Marcia Watson-Whitmyre found out several weeks ago about a bill before the MD Legislature to extend the hunting season to include Sunday hunting for deer, turkey, grouse, and squirrel. Despite the very short notice of this proposed legislation, Rich Dolesh, the MOS Conservation Chairman, wrote up a statement for MOS which opposes Sunday hunting. A few birders also spoke as representatives of MOS at both House and Senate hearings on the proposal. Chapter Presidents need to get this information out to their members as soon as possible since the final bills will not be voted on until late in April. If you are opposed to the idea of Sunday hunting in Maryland, you need to speak out now to your legislative representatives. The relevant bills are House Resolution #906, and Senate Resolution #566.

Rich Dolesh noted to Norm that the MOS does not currently have the ability to easily or quickly respond to these types of legislative actions. *Rich has proposed that at the next Board Meeting he present a plan for initializing a rapid response capability within MOS.* His plan would

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require two people from each chapter who have e-mail capability and who could spread the word to their Chapter when an issue like this surfaces in the future.

Five years ago, MOS was invited to join the Teaming with Wildlife (TWW) Coalition in Maryland. The underlying concept of TWW was the levying of a tax on outdoor equipment to fund non-game wildlife conservation programs. Many Chapters, the State MOS organization, and quite a few individual members of MOS had become involved with the Coalition to plan how to influence Congress to pass this legislation and then to work with DNR to effectively utilize the resulting revenues.

A number of Bills have currently been brought up before Congress: HR 701, The Conservation and Reinvestment Act, and HR 798, the Resources 2000 Act. Both bills are new sources of funding for wildlife, but monies would come from off-shore drilling fees and not from taxes. The MD TWW steering committee made a decision to drop work on TWW, since they felt that the Congress was currently unresponsive to the idea of new taxation programs. Instead, they began to espouse and support the newly proposed Offshore Continental Shelf proposals for wildlife funding, using the list of TWW Coalition members as supporters of these new proposals. Norm felt that it was improper to name the MOS as a supporter of these new bills when the Board had never had an opportunity to review them and state an opinion. For that reason, Norm pulled MOS from the TWW Coalition until such time as a presentation on the new bills could be made to the Board. This will be arranged for the June Board Meeting.

Other New Business

Publicity Committee (Mike Callahan) – Mike announced that he will present a calendar for next year at the upcoming Conference. He stressed the need to work with other committees to get information out, including press releases on bird counts, grants, scholarships, and other programs and organizational activities.

Mike needs to get a copy of our Salvage & Collection Permit, the permit which allows us to possess stuffed specimens of animals/birds.

Cavity Nesting Committee (Mark Johnson) – Mark is trying to determine if there are protocols and information on this subject. If any database of this information exists regarding what has been done in past or if anyone would like to participate in revitalizing this program, please let him know.

Dottie Mumford requested that the MOS make a $300-500 donation to the Horsehead Wetlands Center in order to offset the loss of admission fees no longer charged to MOS members. Norm suggested that Dottie write up a short note to Dick Cleveland and the Gifts Committee as a recommendation to the Board.

Sanctuary Signs – Over 600 sites have been registered to date. Karen Morley will be bringing the signs to the Annual Meeting this year for sale. She noted that they have great income and promotional potential for MOS. In addition, there may be promotional items available for the Conference as well (as T-shirts, Binocular Straps).

Maryland Partners In Flight – Fran Saunders reported that she was preparing the website for the Maryland Partners In Flight organization. She noted that they had requested that the MOS provide hosting for the MD PIF site on the MOS State website. **The Board approved this request.**

Records Committee – Phil Davis reported on the highlights of the Records Committee's annual meeting held in February. He noted that preliminary work had been completed on an official listing of District of Columbia birds. Additionally he noted that an Outreach Subcommittee had been formed to put together a program to present to local chapters describing the rationale and the workings of the Records Committee. This Outreach Program will be announced at the Annual Conference and should be available for Chapter Program coordinators beginning in the Fall of 1999. Contact Paul O'Brien for further information. Finally, Phil recognized Marshall Iliff, who has spent thousands of hours researching old reports and updating data.

Maryland Birdlife – Janet Millenson, who has been ably filling the role of Managing Editor of **MD Birdlife** for the past year and a half, reported that the June 1998 edition will be mailed shortly.

Scholarships – It was noted that the income from the Scholarship Endowment totaled $4,584.45 which included a $100 donation from Caroline County. Last year there were 9 scholarships awarded to a pool of 19 applicants. In 1999 there are 10 scholarships to be awarded to a group of 20 applicants. Jean Fry also noted that there is a continuing need for Chapter representatives to help solicit applications from their areas. The 1999 scholarship winners will be posted in ***Maryland Yellowthroat*** and a number of them will be attending the Saturday evening dinner at the Annual Conference where members will get an opportunity to meet them. Of those selected, one will be going to the Wyoming Ecology Camp, and five to the Connecticut Ecology Camp, along with several attendees at the Connecticut Ornithology Camp.

Nickelodeon Children's Program — Joy Wheeler announced that the Baltimore Bird Club had been asked to participate in a program sponsored by the Nickelodeon Cable TV Channel to help educate inner-city children in the ways of nature. She noted that volunteers are needed to help assemble bluebird houses with these children in early April in the Inner Harbor area of Baltimore. Get in touch with Joy if you or anyone in your Chapter is interested in helping out.

MOS declines to sell or otherwise provide their membership list to **Birder's World** magazine.

Board of Directors Meeting Dates (please note changes). Chapters are needed to volunteer as meeting hosts.

June 12th – Kent County Library in Chestertown
August 28th
December 11th

A **MOTION** was made at 12:42 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was **SECONDED and APPROVED.**

* Decisions by the Board are marked in **BOLDFACE** type. Action items for further discussion at the board or chapter level are marked in ***BOLD ITALIC*** type.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen A. Neugebauer
Secretary

MOS Activities
September-November, 1999

Wednesday, September 1

MEETING. Carroll. "Hart-Miller Island: A Brief History Through Time, 1600-2000" by Gene Scarpulla. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD. For more information, contact Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Join the Cecil Bird Club at Turkey Point for dedication of the Hawk Watch interpretive sign to the Elk Neck State Park. 11:00 a.m. Park in the lot at the extreme south end of MD 272, about 11 miles from the town of North East, follow the trail for .9 miles to the second meadow. For more information call Leslie Fisher at 410-658-2427 or gonbrdn@dol.net.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Turkey Point Hawk Watch- kicks off September 1st until mid-November. To volunteer as a counter or for more information call Leslie Fisher at 410-658-2427 or gonbrdn@dol.net.

Thursday, September 2

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Harford Goatsuckers. Evening watch for Common Nighthawks migrating over western Harford County. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at 3204 Bryson Court, in the Glen Elyn development. For further information, contact the host, Mark Johnson, at 410-692-5978.

Saturday, September 4

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Phoenix. Easy walking trip on Northern Central Hike & Bike Trail. Good for beginning or intermediate birders to work on land bird identification. Meet 7:00 a.m. at parking lot across from pond. For further information, contact the leader, Michele Melia, at 410-358-5920.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Join us for a trip to Hart-Miller Island. A 6 mile walk for shorebirds...maybe the Buff-Breasted Sandpiper. Meet at 6:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride off Rts. 32 & 70. Limited space. For more information, contact Amy Hoffman at 410-549-3598.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Hart-Miller Island. All-day search for shorebirds led by Gene Scarpulla. Possible highlights include Buff-breasted and Baird's Sandpiper. Meet at the I-95 & MD 152 Park & Ride (Exit 74) at 6:15 a.m. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, and insect repellent. For further information contact the coordinator, Matt Hafner, at 410-893-5216.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Tucker Lane, Ashton, MD. "Overgrown trails, poison ivy, slippery rocks and a creek crossing...sound intriguing?" But also excellent chance for early fall migrants. Looking for 7-8 intrepid birders for a morning of woodland birding along Patuxent River watershed. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:15 a.m. at Ashton Village Center (near 7-11) at intersection of Rts. 108 & 650. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Rick Sussman, at 301-774-1185.

Sunday, September 5

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Butterfly Walk at Centennial Park. Walk the wildlife area with local expert to learn basics of butterfly identification. Bring binoculars if possible, cancelled if raining or overcast. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the west end of Centennial Park. The leader is Richard Smith. For further information, call 410-997-7439.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Tunis Mills led by Wayne Bell. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the St. Michaels Village Shopping Center next to the Talbot Bank.

Tuesday, September 7

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Wood, at 410-256-6310.

MEETING. Baltimore. "Identifying Fall Warblers" by Pete Webb, club field trips scheduler and compiler of the Christmas Count and Mid-Winter Count. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

Thursday, September 9

MEETING. Howard. "Conserving Birds Using Satellites," by Blake Henke, Center for Research and Technology, UMBC. A discussion of current and future technologies used to track the migrations of raptors and water birds to learn their natural history. Programs held at Longfellow Elementary School, 5470 Hesperus Dr., Columbia. Hospitality session and club bookstore at 7:30 p.m. Meeting/program begins at 8:00 p.m. For further information contact Mike Kerwin at 410-461-2408.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Birds of Paradise Lost" by National Zoo evolutionary geneticist, Dr. Robert Fleischer. 7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information contact Linda Friedland at 301-983-2136 or by email at linnet@erols.com.

MEETING. Talbot. "Sea Level Rise and the Chesapeake's Future" by Dr. Court Stevenson from the UMCES Horn Point Laboratory. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Crestar Bank basement meeting room , Goldsboro and Harrison Streets in Easton.

Saturday, September 11

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Greenbury Point, Anne Arundel County. Search for butterflies and birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at in the parking lot of Busch's Chesapeake Inn restaurant located off Rt. 50 on Busch's Frontage Road. For further information, contact the leader, Hal Wierenga, at 410-647-7439.

ANNUAL FALL POTLUCK PICNIC. Anne Arundel. 4:00 p.m. at the home of Bobbi Reichwein.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Gwynns Falls Park: Crimea Mansion and Vicinity. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the tennis court parking lot off Windsor Mill Road just east (towards city) of entrance to Crimea Mansion and model railroad. A leisurely walk in our city's largest wilderness park. For further information, contact the leader, Scott Crabtree, at 301-945-1042.

MOS Activities Calendar

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FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Kevin's Hawkwatch. At 8 a.m. walk along the wooded ridge for warblers & other migrants. At 9 a.m. hawkwatch at Kevin Graff's yard in the Hamilton section of Baltimore. Probable major flight of Broad-winged and other hawks. Limit 5 people. To reserve your place call Pete Webb at 410-486-1217 or pwebb@bcpl.net.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. "The Seasons at Fair Hill - Fall". Join Scott Powers for a search of Fall migrants at the Fair Hill Natural Resources Area. Meet at the Covered Bridge parking lot at 7:30 a.m. For more information call 410-658-2368. *NOTE - Maryland Park Pass or $2 per car fee required.*

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Middle Patuxent Environmental Area. Walk through a variety of habitats including field, second growth and woodlands bordering the river. Early fall migrants will be moving. Paths may be muddy. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Board of education building on Rt. 108 for carpooling to small parking lot. The leader is Jeff Duguay. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Bombay Hook NWR. The leader is Herndon Steilkie. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Sunday, September 12

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Kevin's Hawkwatch. At 8 a.m. walk along wooded ridge for migrant songbirds. At 9 a.m. hawkwatch at Kevin Graff's yard. Probable major flight of Broad-winged and other hawks. Limit 5 people. Call the leader, Peter Lev, at 410-823-2962 to reserve your place.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Black Marsh Wildlands. Trip to North Point State Park, for a variety of birds on land, marsh and open water. 2 mile level walk. Telescopes useful. For further information and directions, contact the leaders, Brent and Mary Byers, at 410-686-7294.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Join us for an Open House at Pine Valley Park. Bob Ringler, 410-549-6031, will lead a moderate walk around one of our newer parks in the county. Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Visitor Center at the end of Wilhem Drive. which is off York Street. in Manchester, MD.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Susquehanna State Park. Trek though this migrating passerine trap in search of Blackburnian Warblers, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and others. Fun starts at 7:30 a.m. from Rock Run Mill, junction of Stafford and Rock Run Roads. For further information contact the leader, Les Eastman, at 410-734-6969.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Presidents' Day Walk At Seneca. Participation of all former Chapter Presidents is encouraged and everyone is welcome! Resident and migrant land birds, possible water birds along Potomac and Broad-Winged Hawks. Bring lunch for a post-walk picnic. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at parking lot at end of Riley's Lock Road off River Road. Honorary Leaders: Current and former Presidents participating. For further information, contact Mike Bowen, at 301-530-5764.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Bay Hundred led by Les Roslund. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the St. Michaels Village Shopping Center next to the Talbot Bank.

Tuesday, September 14

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Josie Gray, at 410-922-1837.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Harford Glen. Morning trip near Bel Air for egrets, raptors, shorebirds and migrant songbirds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the south end of Wheel Road. For further information, contact the leader, Dave Seitz, at 410-838-2150.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Habitat Walk at Savage Mill Trail. Easy walking on level one mile trail with option of short uphill extension. Walk will encompass all aspects of the natural world. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the entrance to the trail. The leaders are Bob and Jo Solem. For further information, call 301-725-5037.

MEETING. Kent. "Pickering Creek Presentation". 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Library, Chestertown. For further information, contact Gail Regester, at 410-778-9367.

Wednesday, September 15

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Rock Creek Park. Migrant warblers, vireos and sparrows. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Picnic Area #18 (1/2 mile below Nature Center on Ridge Road.) For further information and directions, contact the leader, Bill Dobbins, at 202-338-1321.

Thursday, September 16

MEETING. Caroline. "Scales and Tales" by Ray Bevins. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Caroline County Public Library, Denton Meeting Room, 100 Market Street, Denton, MD.

Saturday, September 18

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cromwell Valley Park. Join Jim Meyers (410-435-2008) with the Wild Bird Center people in a walk through the diverse habitats of the Park. Expect to find a variety of resident and migrant birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Willow Grove Farm" Information Kiosk in the park off Cromwell Bridge Road 1.5 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 29A. For further information, contact Ray at the Wild Bird Center at 410-666-4550.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Hit-n-Run Fall Count. All-day journey to Harford's hotspots for widest assortment of species possible. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at Bob Evan's Restaurant, corner of MD 24 and Bel Air South Parkway. For further information contact the leader, Matt Hafner, at 410-893-5216.

MOS Activities Calendar

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FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Meadowside Nature Center and Area. "Challenging" fall warblers, migrant landbirds. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the nature center. For further information and directions, contact the leader, Rick Sussman, at 301-774-1185.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Washington Monument State Park - This is the peak time of the season for Broad-winged Hawk migration. Meet at the upper parking lot of the park at 9:00 a.m. For more information, contact Dave Weesner at 301-432-7718.

Sunday, September 19

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Rocks State Park. Broad-winged Hawks and other migrants are the quarry on this morning of bird watching. Meet at the ValuFood in the Rock Spring Shopping Center (MD 24 and US 1 Bypass) at 7:30 a.m. For further information contact the leader, Harold Boling, 410-803-1075.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Beginner's Bird Walk at Font Hill. Easy walking on paved paths and boardwalks through this mixed habitat area of wetlands and woods. Learn how to start observe birds and use of binoculars and field guides. Meet at 9:00 a.m. on Font Hill Drive at sign. The leader is Mike Kerwin. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Layhill Park. Migrant sparrows, warblers and other woodland and edge birds. Waterproof boots and long pants essential. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at first available parking space on left after pulling into park. Limited to 8 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Howard Youth, at 301-770-7504.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to the Easton Waste Treatment Plant led by Dick Kleen. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Tuesday, September 21

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Elliot Kirschbaum, at 410-243-1481 or ekirschb@mail.bcpl.net.

Saturday, September 25

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Oregon Ridge Nature Center. Bluebirds, migrant warblers and other songbirds, possible hawk flight. Meet 8:00 a.m. at Oregon Ridge Nature Center. For further information, contact the leader, Gail Frantz, at 410-833-7135.

FIELD TRIP. Caroline. Bird Walk at Tuckahoe State Park. Beginners Welcome! Leader: Mariana Nuttle. Meet 8 a.m. at park's Cherry Lane entrance. Rain Date: Sept. 26. For more information, contact Danny Poet at 410-827-8651.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Elk Neck State Park. Join Leslie Fisher for a walk out to the Turkey Point Light House and look for some warblers along the way. If you would like you can stay for some hawk watching as well. Meet at the Turkey Point parking area at 7:30 a.m. For more information call 410-658-2427.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Schooley Mill Park. Moderate walking through mixed woodlands and fields looking for fall migrants. Excellent sparrow area. The possibility of flyover hawks and other migrating species are very promising. Paths may be muddy. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the upper lot. The leader is Daryl Olson. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

Sunday, September 26

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Stoney Forest. Large hardwood tract near Creswell is good area for finding migrating passerines. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Creswell WaWa, corner of MD 136 & MD 543. For further information contact the leader, Betsy Reeder, at 410-569-5202.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Confusing fall warblers at Rockburn Park. Learn skills on sorting out the wave of migrant warblers. Focus will also include bird sounds. Also expect migrant species of all kinds including thrushes, flycatchers and sparrows. Moderate walking through woods and fields. Paths may be muddy. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office. The leader is David Holmes. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Wells Point Preserve led by Les Roslund. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the St. Michaels Village Shopping Center next to the Talbot Bank.

Tuesday, September 28

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Dot Gustafson, at 410-377-4120.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Mariner Point Park. Leisurely trip through quiet Joppatowne park. Expected birds include Palm Warbler and Wood Duck. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the third lot in the park, south end of Kearney Drive. For further information contact the leader, Tom Congersky, at 410-676-6489.

MEETING. Washington. Potluck at 6:30 p.m. followed by the monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. Montgomery County MOS member Gail MacKiernan will give a presentation on "Birding in South Africa." For further information, call Janet Shields at 301-416-7109.

Wednesday, September 29

MEETING. Cecil. DNR will speak on "Backyard Habitat for Wildlife." 7:30 p.m. at Gilpin Manor School, Elkton. For more information, contact Leslie Fisher at 410-658-2427.

MOS Activities Calendar

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FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday walk at Gwynn Acres. Walk through the woodlands on paved paths for a variety of woodland birds. Woodpeckers plentiful and barred owls possible. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Ram's Horn Row and Old Columbia Road. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

Thursday, September 30

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Tudor Farms, Caroline County. Meet at the Dollar General Store parking lot, Rt. 213 and Spring Avenue, at 7:30 a.m. For information, contact Gail Regester at 410-778-9367.

Friday, October 1

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Landscapes, Roadscapes and the Breeding Bird Survey" by John R. Sauer of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. 8:00 p.m. at the DNR Conference Room, Tawes Building, corner of Taylor Avenue and Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis.

Saturday-Sunday, October 2-3

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Join us for a weekend of fun in Cape May, NJ. During migration, one never knows what rarity may be seen. For more information, contact Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

Saturday, October 2

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Patuxent River Park & Jug Bay. Board a pontoon boat with naturalist Greg Kearns for a close look at marsh birds. Limit 15. $4.00 charge per person. Make reservations by September 30. Meet at 6:00 a.m. at the Parole Park & Ride lot located off Harry Truman Parkway. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Kim Hudyma, at 410-859-8490.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cromwell Valley Park Join Jim Meyers (410-435-2008) with the Wild Bird Center people in a walk through the diverse habitats of the Park. Expect to find a variety of resident and migrant birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Willow Grove Farm" Information Kiosk in the park off Cromwell Bridge Road 1.5 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 29A. For further information, contact Ray at the Wild Bird Center at 410-666-4550.

FIELD TRIP. Kent. A trip to our bird-banding station in Queen Anne's County. Meet at the Dollar General Store parking lot at the intersection of Rt. 213 and Spring Avenue, Chestertown at 8:30 a.m.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Potomac River Bird Paddle. Riverine species and some migrants. We'll canoe upstream from the Sycamore Island Club. A waiver of liability will be required for each participant. Limited to 18 people. For reservations and information, contact the leader, David Winer, at 301-229-8963.

Sunday, October 3

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Howard County's Sparrows I. For the first of two walks, join Bonnie Ott (410-461-3361) at Mt. Pleasant to see possible Grasshopper Sparrows & other sparrow species. Since this area has limited access, it will be necessary to car pool. For arrangements, please contact Gail Frantz at 410-833-7135 or email: guineabird@aol.com.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Soldier's Delight. A trip to the serpentine barrens of Baltimore County in search of rare plants and birds, departing from the I-95 & MD 152 Park & Ride (Exit 74) at 7:00 a.m. For further information contact the leader, Russ Kovach, evenings at 410-679-0535.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Sparrow search at Mount Pleasant. Walk this Howard Conservancy property to search for 9+ species of sparrows. Great flyovers possible. Moderate walking through fields. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the shed. The leader is Bonnie Ott. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to St. Michaels and vicinity led by Les Coble. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the St. Michaels Village Shopping Center next to the Talbot Bank.

Tuesday, October 5

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Matilda Weiss, at 410-337-2732.

MEETING. Baltimore. "The Yellow Book and How To Use It." by Bob Ringler, past president of the BBC and co-author of the book describing when and in which region each bird species can be found in Maryland.. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

Wednesday, October 6

MEETING. Carroll. "Bird Watching's Top Ten Myths" by Rick Blom. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College in Westminster, MD. For more information, contact Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

Thursday, October 7

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Soldiers Delight. Join the Natural History Society folks seeing fringed gentians in bloom and other serpentine barrens plants and birds. Meet at 1:00 p.m. at Frank's Nursery and Crafts, Reisterstown Road., 3.5 miles northwest of I-695 Beltway exit 20. Trip goes, rain or shine. For further information, contact the leader, Jean Worthley, at 410-374-5370.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday Walk at David Force. Moderate walking through this county open space that includes fields and woodlands. Great hawk watching views. Paths may be muddy. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the sign on Pebble Beach drive. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

Saturday, October 9

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Black Marsh, Baltimore County. Check out the marshes and varied terrain. This is a great place to view migrating hawks. There will be some hiking involved on level terrain. All day, bring lunch. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Severna Park Park & Ride lot located on the corner of Jones Station Road and Ritchie Highway. For further information, contact the leader, Larry Zoller, at 410-647-9354.

MOS Activities Calendar

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FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Hibernia County Park, PA. Take a trip to this wonderful Pennsylvania park that has a large wetland area managed for birds. Meet at the Rising Sun High School at 6:30 a.m. For more information call Scott Powers at 410-658-2368.

ANNUAL PICNIC. Harford. For further information, contact Debbie Delevan, at 410-692-9305.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Beginner's walk at Lake Elkhorn. Walk the paved path around the lake to learn the basics of birding. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Brokenland Parkway Lot. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Little Bennett Park, 1/2 day. Everyone welcome, particularly beginning birders, to enjoy this area of varied habitats and birdlife. Late migrant warblers and vireos, early sparrows, some raptors possible. For reservations and time and place to meet, contact the leader, Gemma Radko, at 301-607-4374.

Sunday, October 10

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

PELOT SANCTUARY WORKDAY. Join Caroline MOS members to clean up and maintain Pelot's trails. Meet at the sanctuary at 1 p.m. Coordinator: Bill Scudder. For more information, contact Danny Poet at 410-827-8651.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Meadowbrook. Boots are essential to walk this hilly field and wetland area in search of sparrows and marsh birds. Open view of sky should provide good hawk watching. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park and ride. The leader is Kurt Schwarz. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to the Hurlock Waste Treatment Plant led by Shirley Bailey. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Tuesday, October 12

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Ruth Culbertson, at 410-825-1379.

MEETING. Kent. "Bog Turtles" by Scott Smith of DNR. 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Library, Chestertown. For more information, contact Gail Regester at 410-778-9367.

Wednesday, October 13

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Elbow Branch. A short walk on western side of Susquehanna State Park for late migrants and early winter residents. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Deer Creek Harmony Presbyterian Church, MD 161 and Harmony Church Road. For further information contact the leader, Russ Kovach, evenings at 410-679-0535.

Thursday, October 14

MEETING. Howard. "Maryland's Himalayas," by Dennis Coskren. Habitats are influenced by the geology of an area. This program will also provide background for a club field trip in November to local geological sites. Programs held at Longfellow Elementary School, 5470 Hesperus Dr., Columbia. Hospitality session and club bookstore at 7:30 p.m. Meeting/program begins at 8:00 p.m. For further information contact Mike Kerwin at 410-461-2408.

MEETING. Montgomery. "From Potomac to Panama: A Year in the life of a Migratory Songbird" by Lisa Petit of the Smithsonian Institution's Migratory Bird Center at the National Zoo. 7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information, contact Linda Friedland at 301-983-2136 or by email at linnet@erols.com.

MEETING. Talbot. "Native Americans: Their Environment and Culture Contact on the Eastern Shore" by Virginia Busby from the University of Virginia. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Crestar Bank basement meeting room , Goldsboro and Harrison Streets in Easton.

Saturday, October 16

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cromwell Valley Park Join Jim Meyers (410-435-2008) with the Wild Bird Center people in a walk through the diverse habitats of the Park. Expect to find a variety of resident and migrant birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Willow Grove Farm" Information Kiosk in the park off Cromwell Bridge Road 1.5 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 29A. For further information, contact Ray at the Wild Bird Center at 410-666-4550.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Howard County Sparrows II. This trip includes heavy duty walking in a private property farm. There are no trails, no facilities and boots are a necessity. However, the sparrows love it! The leader is Bonnie Ott (410-461-3361). Because this area has limited access, it will be necessary to car pool. For arrangements, please contact Gail Frantz at 410-833-7135 or email: guineabird@aol.com.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. University of Maryland central Farm. Sparrows will be the focus as we walk the fields of this private farm. Many flyovers possible. Bring boots as newly created wetlands may be soggy. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the farm office. Leader Bonnie Ott. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Pemberton Park in Salisbury. The leader is Shirley Bailey. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Sunday, October 17

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Swan Harbor Farms. Journey through the open grassland and bayside pasture of this newly acquired Harford County park for field birds, sparrows, and waterfowl. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Roye-Williams Elementary School, Oakington Road just south of Old Post Road (MD 132). For further information contact the leader, Glen Hedelson, at 410-836-9355.

MOS Activities Calendar

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FIELD TRIP. Howard. THE BIG SIT! Centennial Park. We will join in for the 7th annual big sit. This event is sponsored by the New Haven bird club in Connecticut. Last year 17 states and 2 counties in England participated for a total of 336 species. The rules are to count all the birds seen or heard from a 17 foot circle in a single day. Stay for a little while or all day. Bring a chair and sustenance. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Wildlife end on the west side where we will draw out our circle. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Ferry Neck led by Harry Armistead. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the St. Michaels Village Shopping Center next to the Talbot Bank.

Wednesday, October 20

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Washington Monument State Park. Second annual trip to look for migrating raptors at relatively nearby watching area. No reservations required, but please contact leader in case rain/wind suggest later date would be more propitious. 2/3 day. Meet at 9 a.m. at base of monument. Lunch at nearby restaurant to follow trip. For further information and directions, contact the leader, Mike Bowen, at 301-530-5764.

Thursday, October 21

MEETING. Caroline. "Bats Part II" by State Bat expert, Dana Limpert . Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Caroline County Public Library, Denton Meeting Room, 100 Market Street, Denton, MD.

Saturday-Sunday, October 23-24

IRISH GROVE SANCTUARY ANNUAL FALL WORKDAY. Come lend a hand to help maintain our sanctuary in Somerset County. The workday usually begins around 9:00 a.m. and ends about 4:00 p.m. with a mid-day break for dinner provided by the Wicomico chapter. You are welcome to spend Friday and/or Saturday night at the house so that you can get in more time for birding. No overnight fee is charged to workday participants. Make reservations by October 18. For more information, call the sanctuary chairman, Dotty Mumford at 410-849-8336.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. A weekend trip to Town Hill for hawk watching & pond watching. It should be a good time for migrating accipiters. Perhaps we'll get lucky and see a Northern Goshawk. For more information, contact Bob Ringler at 410-549-6031.

Saturday, October 23

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Waggoner's Gap. Leading location on the East Coast for Golden Eagles; Merlin, Northern Goshawk, and Common Raven are also possible. Rain date is Sunday, October 24. For further information contact Russ Kovach, evenings at 410-679-0535.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Hawk watch at Rockburn Park. Bring a chair and sustenance to sit and watch the hawks fly over. Brief forays into surrounding fields and woods a possibility. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the tot lot. The leader is Ralph Geuder. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Tidewater Trader parking lot at the railroad tracks to travel to the sewage lagoon for observing waterfowl. For more information, contact Gail Regester at 410-778-9367.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Lower Frederick County. Wintering and resident sparrows, finches. 1/2 day. Meet at entrance to Lilypons Water Gardens along Lilypons Road at 7:30 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Paul Pisano, at 703-685-3790.

Sunday, October 24

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Hugg-Thomas WMA. Walk this wildlife management are of woodlands and fields for a variety of late migrants. Moderate walking. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking lot. The leaders are Chuck Stirrat and Bonnie Ott. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Rachel Carson Conservation Park. Woodpeckers, sparrows, early waterfowl at this beautiful new, undeveloped park in extreme northern Montgomery County. Old fields, hedgerows, woodlands and ponds. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:30 a.m. For further information and where to meet, contact the leader, Rob Gibbs, at 301-253-6903.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Trappe led by Wayne Bell. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Tuesday, October 26

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Alpha Ridge Park/ Henryton. Walk this field area with option of wooded trail through woods at Henryton. Moderate walking. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the parking lot of Alpha Ridge Park. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

MEETING. Washington. "Birding Churchill" by J. William (Bill) Oberman. Call Janet Shields at 301-416-7109 for more information.

Friday, October 29

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. "Happy Owl-o-ween". Join Scott Powers as we call and search for owls in Elk Neck State Park. Meet at the Turkey Point parking lot at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 410-658-2368.

Saturday, October 30

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Wooten's Landing Wetlands Park. This is a new county park and created wetlands in southern Anne Arundel County. Sparrows, late shorebirds and ducks are all possible. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Parole Park & Ride lot located off Harry Truman Parkway. For further information, contact the leader, Kathie Lambert at 410-867-4056.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Northampton Furnace Trail. Level walking through mixed woods and brushy habitat to edge of Loch Raven reservoir. Good chance for Winter Wrens, late lingering Robins, and some waterfowl. Meet 8:00 a.m. at Dulaney Valley Road and Chapelwood Lane, 2 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 27. For further information, contact the leader, Joy Wheeler, at 410-825-1204.

MOS Activities Calendar

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FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cromwell Valley Park Join Jim Meyers (410-435-2008) with the Wild Bird Center people in a walk through the diverse habitats of the Park. Expect to find a variety of resident and migrant birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Willow Grove Farm" Information Kiosk in the park off Cromwell Bridge Road 1.5 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 29A. For further information, contact Ray at the Wild Bird Center at 410-666-4550.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Delaware Coast. All-day trip from Delaware City to Little Creek for wide array of species including possible Rough-legged Hawk and Ross' Goose. Bring lunch; scopes helpful. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the I-95 & MD 155 commuter lot (Exit 89). For further information, contact the leader, Rich Cheicante, 410-803-2712.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Waggoner's Gap, PA, 2/3 day. (Joint with ANS). 100+ miles from Washington Beltway but worth the trip. Excellent location for migrant raptors at peak time for Golden Eagle movement. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Kerrie Kirkpatrick, at 703-560-4950.

Sunday, October 31

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Claiborne and vicinity led by Rob Etgen. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the St. Michaels Village Shopping Center next to the Talbot Bank.

Tuesday, November 2

MEETING. Baltimore. "Chesapeake Bay Waterfowl: Status and Trends" by Doug Forsell. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion. The Mansion is located off Greenspring Avenue one block south of Northern Parkway (accessible from I-83 Northern Parkway exit south of the Beltway) in Baltimore.

Wednesday, November 3

MEETING. Carroll. TBA. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD. For more information, contact Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

Friday, November 5

MEETING. Harford. Chan Robbins will be the speaker. Meet at 6:15 p.m. at Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 & MD 136. For further information, call 410-692-9305.

Saturday, November 6

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Piney Run Park. Walk the hilly trails around the lake edges for waterfowl and winter land birds. Telescopes recommended. Meet 8:00 a.m. at entrance gate. For further information, contact the leader, Burton Alexander, at 410-381-5574.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Harford Waterfowl Tour. Morning trip will visit several locations along eastern border of county for possible Northern Shoveler, Oldsquaw, and scoters. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the Rod'n'Gun Club on APG's Edgewood Area, south end of MD 24. For further information, contact the leader, Dave Webb, at 410-939-3537.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Sandy Point State Park. Wintering waterfowl, other waterbirds, some landbirds. 2/3 day. Meet just beyond park tollbooth at 9 a.m. (no entrance fee this time of year). For further information, contact the leader, Don Messersmith, at 301-593-5942.

Sunday, November 7

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Looking for sparrows at Hashawa off John Owings Road, Westminster. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Bear Branch Nature Center. For more information, contact Amy Hoffman at 410-549-3598.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Avalon Sea Watch. Join Scott and Kelly Powers for a morning of watching migrant ducks and seabirds along the New Jersey coast. Meet at Cecil Community College at 5:30 am. For more information call 410-658-2368.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Eden Mill & Kilgore Falls. Morning hike follows scenic Falling Branch from Deer Creek to the state's second highest waterfall. Meet at 7:15 a.m. at Eden Mill, Eden Mill Road just west of Fawn Grove Road. For further information, contact the leader, Deborah Bowers, at 410-692-9741.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Sunday's Centennial Park walk. Walk the paved path around Centennial park for migrating waterfowl and other species.. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Ralph Cullison. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Myrtle Grove WMA and Vicinity. Winter residents. All day. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Oxon Hill Children's Farm or 8:30 a.m. at Myrtle Grove. Trip will stop at fast-food place for lunch. For reservations and additional information, contact the leader, Frank Witebsky, at 301-871-7990.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Blackwater NWR led by Steve Ford. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Thursday, November 11

MEETING. Montgomery. "Timeless Patterns: The Seasons at Churchill" by author, photographer Robert E. Mumford, Jr. 7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information, contact Linda Friedland at 301-983-2136 or by email at linnet@erols.com.

MEETING. Talbot. "John and William Bartram, Pioneer Scientists" by Paul Spitzer. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Crestar Bank basement meeting room , Goldsboro and Harrison Streets in Easton.

MOS Activities Calendar

(continued from previous page)

Saturday, November 13

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cromwell Valley Park Join Jim Meyers (410-435-2008) with the Wild Bird Center people in a walk through the diverse habitats of the Park. Expect to find a variety of resident and migrant birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Willow Grove Farm" Information Kiosk in the park off Cromwell Bridge Road 1.5 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 29A. For further information, contact Ray at the Wild Bird Center at 410-666-4550.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Looking for waterfowl and whatever else we might see at Piney Run Park. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park's gate on Martz Road, Sykesville, MD. For more information, contact trip leader Jerry Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Owl Prowl. Evening outing near Elk Neck State Park in Cecil County for possible screech, Barred and saw-whet owls. Meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Havre de Grace Plaza Acme, US 40 and Lewis Lane. For further information, contact the coordinator, Carol Nemeth, at 410-939-1485.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Prime Hook NWR. The leader is Terry Allen. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Sunday, November 14

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Eastern Neck. All-day trip to NWR in Kent County productive for grebes, swans, diving ducks, and winter sparrows. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the I-95 & MD 155 commuter lot (Exit 89). For further information, contact the leaders, Jean and Larry Fry, at 410-452-8539.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Sunday's Centennial Park walk. Walk the paved path around Centennial park for migrating waterfowl and other species.. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Maud Banks. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Terrapin Park, Kent Island, led by Danny Poet. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Wednesday, November 17

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Swan Harbor Farms. Excellent birding area on the Oakington Peninsula of eastern Harford County. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Roye-Williams Elementary School, Oakington Road just south of Old Post Road (MD 132). For further information, contact the leader, Joe Vangrin, at 410-838-1921.

Thursday, November 18

MEETING. Caroline. "Birds of Trinidad and Tobago" by Dr. Robert Trever. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Caroline County Public Library, Denton Meeting Room, 100 Market Street, Denton, MD.

Saturday, November 20

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Blackwater NWR. All-day trip to see ducks, thousands of Canada and Snow Geese, and possible Bald Eagle or Brown-headed Nuthatch. Meet at the refuge Visitors Center. Birding mostly from cars, one short level walk. Telescopes useful. Meet 9:30 a.m. at visitor center. For further information, contact the leader, Taylor McLean, at 410-377-7622.

Sunday, November 21

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Loch Raven Reservoir. Expansive pine forests with adjacent lake attract passerines and waterfowl alike. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Youths Benefit Elementary School in Fallston, on MD 152, 3 miles northwest of US 1. For more information contact the leader, Barbara Meserve, at 410-877-7331.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Sunday's Centennial Park walk. Walk the paved path around Centennial park for migrating waterfowl and other species.. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Mike Kerwin. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Lilypons - New Design Road. Wintering field birds, targeting Fox and Tree sparrows and possible Loggerhead Shrike. Will include stop at Black Hill Reservoir, if conditions look good for waterbirds. 1/2 day. For reservations and further information, contact the leader, Gail MacKiernan, at 301-989-1828.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk to Horsehead Wetland Center led by Bernie Burns. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot in front of the Acme in the Tred Avon Shopping Center in Easton.

Tuesday, November 23

MEETING. Cecil. Ducks Unlimited will speak about their habitat conservation practices. 7:30 p.m. at Elkton library, large meeting room. For more information, contact Leslie Fisher at 410-658-2427.

Saturday, November 27

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cromwell Valley Park Join Jim Meyers (410-435-2008) with the Wild Bird Center people in a walk through the diverse habitats of the Park. Expect to find a variety of resident and migrant birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the "Willow Grove Farm" Information Kiosk in the park off Cromwell Bridge Road 1.5 miles north of I-695 Beltway exit 29A. For further information, contact Ray at the Wild Bird Center at 410-666-4550.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Conowingo Dam. Morning trip to acclaimed site along Susquehanna River for possible Golden Eagle, Lesser Black-backed Gull, and Black-crowned Night-Heron. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the base of the dam at Fisherman's Park, east end of Shures Landing Road. For further information, contact the leader, John Wortman, at 410-939-3146.

Sunday, November 28

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Sunday's Centennial Park walk. Walk the paved path around Centennial park for migrating waterfowl and other species.. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is TBA. For further information, call 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Point Lookout State Park. Excellent site for wintering waterfowl with possibility of surprises. We'll also visit some other locations along the lower Patuxent River. Easy 2-hour drive from DC area. 2/3 day. Limited to 12 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Mike Bowen, at 301-530-5764.

Good stuff in this issue, not to be missed ! ! !

- Solomons Island Conference Rundown
- Notes From the C&O Canal Mid-Winter Count
- Two (count 'em) Book Reviews
- More Good Websites
- News From All the Chapters
- What Happened at the Exciting March Board Meeting
- The World Series of Birding Results
- The Records Committee Reaches Out

. . . and Much, Much More ! ! !

The copy deadline for the Nov/Dec issue of the Yellowthroat is September 25 for chapter activities and October 1 for all other submissions.

Send calendar entries for November-January to:

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